Jobs at risk as drinks giant announces cuts

SEE PAGE 31

Energy expert on why Jackdaw should get nod

SEE PAGE 7

The P&J

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026 £2.50

YOUR VOICE OF THE NORTH

Spy musical brings humour with high energy changes

Five actors take on 60 roles in show

ENTERTAINMENT PULLOUT

SEE PAGE 3

Bosses on hunt for Flint market vendors

City officer's police career is 'over' after stalking case

Sergeant admitted contacting social worker after she had repeatedly begged him to stop

BY DAVID MCPHEE

AN Aberdeen police sergeant's career is "over" after he admitted stalking a woman.

Ricky Burr, who had a two-decade career with the police, met the social worker professionally, after which he relentlessly stalked her, despite repeated requests to stop.

Burr appeared at Aberdeen Sheriff Court for sentencing and was ordered to pay £10,000, including £3,000 compensation to his victim.

He was also made subject of a non-harassment order, lasting three years.

An earlier statement released by Police Scotland described Burr's behaviour as going "against everything" the force stands for and said he would now face misconduct proceedings.

Full story: Pages 4&5

In your P&J today

Local, Scottish, UK & World News 2-26
Opinion 28-30
Business/Farming 31-35
TV & Radio 36-37
What's On pullout

A dull day with rain, clearing to cloudy skies.

Max: 19c Min: 13c

Full forecast on page 35

Contact us

Editor: Craig Walker
editor@pressandjournal.co.uk

The P&J has expert teams of journalists exclusively covering different geographical and subject areas. Here is how to get in touch:

Live News: Derry Alldritt
livenews@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343311

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire: Ben Hendry
cityandshire@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343473

Highlands, Islands and Moray: David Mackay
north@pressandjournal.co.uk 01343 554230

Business: Rob McLaren
business@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343366

Crime & Courts: Ewan Cameron
crimeandcourts@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 344195

Environment and Transport: Lauren Taylor
environmentandtransport@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343273

Farming: Katrina Macarthur
farming@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 338008

Features and Entertainment: David Dalziel
features@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343368

Food & Drink: Karla Sinclair
foodanddrink@pressandjournal.co.uk 07966 770154

Health & Wellbeing: Andy Morton
healthandwellbeing@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 344155

Nostalgia: Kirstie Waterston
kirstie.waterston@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343025

Obituaries: Lindsay Bruce
obits@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343418

Family announcements
yourads@ajl.co.uk 01224 691212

Pictures: Gemma Bibby
pictures@pressandjournal.co.uk 07977 553597

Politics: Andy Philip
politics@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343026

Schools & Family: Sarah Bruce
schoolsandfamily@pressandjournal.co.uk 01463 272243

Sport: Danny Law and Ryan Cryle
sport@pressandjournal.co.uk 01224 343373

10 Caledonian House Business Centre,
164 High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BD
1 Marischal Square, Broad Street,
Aberdeen, AB10 1BL

Advertising:
01224 691212
ads@ajl.co.uk

Digital Subscriptions & Customer Service:
help.dcthomson.co.uk

Home Delivery:
Aberdeen: 01224 684003
Inverness & Elgin: 01463 272279
newspapersales@pressandjournal.co.uk

P&J Competitions & Marketing:
01224 343219
pjcompetitions@ajl.co.uk

ipso. Regulated

CORRECTIONS: The Press and Journal is committed to journalism of the highest standards, producing a newspaper with accuracy, honesty and fairness. Our journalists abide by the Society of Editors' Code of Practice, administered by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). In most cases, we can correct inaccuracies in the next issue on this page, or the relevant section, if appropriate. If you feel we have made an error, or fallen below our usual high standards, please write to The Press and Journal, 1 Marischal Square, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BL. E-mail complaints@pressandjournal.co.uk
For information about the Code of Practice or IPSO, visit www.ipso.co.uk, e-mail complaints@ipso.co.uk or call 0300 1232220.

Crews descend on city as hit Netflix show sets up base

ACTION-PACKED: Dept. Q has set up base at Pittodrie and, below, is also filming at Bon Accord Baths in Aberdeen.

EXCLUSIVE BY ISAAC BUCHAN AND JENNA SCOTT

A major Netflix hit has set up base near Aberdeen beach with stunt crews spotted along the seafront – and the Bon Accord Baths is also set to make an appearance on the show.

Dept. Q launched last year on the streaming platform with rave reviews praising the nine-part series based on a Danish novel.

An inside source told The Press and Journal that crews were pitching up with trailers near Pittodrie yesterday morning.

Netflix chiefs gave the green light for a second season in June, with filming locations expanding from its Edinburgh-centred plot from the first time around.

The Granite City was chosen as one of these spots, with the call for extras going out a few months ago.

And it has been revealed that the historic Bon Accord Baths will feature as a key location.

Bruce Strachan, Chair of Bon Accord Heritage, is thrilled to welcome production into the Baths.

He confirmed a donation for the filming could help on the path to reopening the baths that have been out of use since 2008.

"Seeing our iconic Art Deco building serve as a backdrop for such a high-profile show is incredibly exciting," he said.

Mr Strachan is hopeful the collaboration will further support his mission to restore the Baths.

He explained a donation would also be made on behalf of production.

He added: "It not only highlights the unique architectural beauty of the site but also brings a fantastic energy to our ongoing mission to restore and reopen this beloved landmark for the community."

Production has now arrived in the city, with the crew setting up base at Pittodrie near the South Stand.

The P&J can reveal that trailers have been parked up next to the away end, with catering facilities also on site.

Motorbikes were also spotted, with a couple of two-wheelers strapped down to the back of a flatbed truck.

Dept. Q is based on the bestselling novels by Danish author Jussi Adler-Olsen.

It follows Detective Chief Inspector Carl Morck, a once-respected officer whose life is turned upside down after a brutal attack.

Struggling with guilt and professional fallout, Morck is reassigned to a newly created cold case unit tasked with reopening unsolved crimes.

The first series introduced audiences to Morck's complex character and the dark, intricate cases that define the unit's work.

Now, anticipation is building for the second instalment.

Matthew Goode leads the cast as Morck, alongside Kelly MacDonald as Dr Rachel Irving and Mark Bonner as Stephen Burns.

The series is created by Scott Frank and Chandni Lakhani, with Frank also contributing to its award-nominated score alongside composer Carlos Rafael Rivera.

ON SCHEDULE: Internal works at Flint have been signed off by the council.

Flint market on lookout for vendors

EXCLUSIVE BY SOPHIE FARQUHARSON

A hunt is being launched to secure vendors to fill Aberdeen's new Flint market as progress on the building ramps up.

The £50 million regeneration scheme at The Green is due to be completed by late 2027.

The metal structure is now taking shape and the glass frontage at what had been the BHS department store on Union Street is now complete.

Internal works have been signed off by the council as the various food and drink units designed to lure people into the attraction start to come together.

Now project bosses are on the hunt to find prospective businesses interested in taking up a spot inside the new market.

The new destination at The Green will feature a food hall with 11 units up for grabs.

This will give local firms the chance to "showcase their offerings", with "established and start-up businesses welcome".

And there will also be nine retail units on the upper level of the market.

Food and retail units are available at Flint.

Aberdeen City Council, who are funding the project, hope the new food, drink, retail and event destination will help to turn around the fortunes of the Granite Mile.

McGinty's, who have signed a contract to run the market, previously said they had taken inspiration from Edinburgh, London and Newcastle.

Allan Henderson, CEO of The McGinty's Group, said: "It's been very exciting to see the building develop over the last few months.

"With works on schedule, we are only about year away from opening the doors to the public and showcasing the fantastic Flint."

Mr Henderson added: "We've already received plenty of interest from various local companies who are keen to learn more about the market.

"With food and retail units available, we are keen to curate a collaborative space that will ultimately help to shine a light on amazing food and drink producers from the north-east."

An event for potential vendors will take place at 11am on August 25, at McGinty's No.10 Bar and Restaurant in Aberdeen.

This will give traders the opportunity to find out more about the Flint brand and the overall project.

Interested parties must sign up for the event in advance as numbers are limited.

Charities hail return of Playday to Aberdeen as hundreds take part

Hundreds of children in Aberdeen enjoyed a screen break on Wednesday to enjoy a day of fun in the great outdoors.

The huge event turned Hazlehead Park into a giant playground as part of the UK Playday celebrations.

Organised by Aberlour Children's Charity and community partners, the fun day had a range of activities to get children playing, exploring and making friends outdoors.

There was much fun to be had at Aberdeen Playday.

The Aberdeen Playday, now in its third year, comes as research suggests outdoor play has declined by 50% in a generation while over half of parents (55%) believe their children play outside less than they did when they were young.

Aberlour, one of Scotland's most respected children's charities, expects up to 1,000 children and families across the day next month to enjoy some outdoor fun before the end of summer.

Sarah Calder, manager of the charity's Options service, said: "It was a terrific day, bringing children, families and communities together in a really simple and fun way.

"We're delighted so many groups and organisations have helped us return this year and couldn't be happier to see so many children having fun."

Event partners Play Scotland, the national charity promoting children's play, encouraged families to take part in a survey helping shape future improvements to outdoor play provision.

Chief executive Mary Ramsay said: "Playday is the perfect opportunity to celebrate the power of play and create lasting memories and connection."

Handmade Mattresses / High-Quality Divans & Headboards / Bedroom Furniture

Save 20%
on Selected Manager Specials

Including:
Memory Foam Mattresses, All Pine Furniture & Beds, Anna Headboard, Abbey Chair, and more.

Visit our showroom at
39 Ardconnel Street, Inverness, IV2 3HB

Quick Delivery. Made in the Highlands.
t: 01463 233662
e: sales@highlandblindcraft.co.uk
www.highlandblindcraft.co.uk

HIGHLAND BLINDCRAFT
BEDS - MATTRESSES & MORE

Scottish Charity No SC030764

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Police officer's career 'over' after stalking social worker for six weeks

STALKER: Sergeant Ricky Burr bombarded a social worker with messages despite being urged to stop.

BY DAVID MCPHEE

An Aberdeen police sergeant's two-decade career is "over" after he admitted relentlessly stalking a female social worker.

Ricky Burr, 47, continued to bombard the woman with messages and calls despite her repeatedly begging him to stop.

Burr – a married father of two – became obsessed with the then-28-year-old woman after the pair met professionally and messages were exchanged.

But Aberdeen Sheriff Court was told that when the woman told Burr she no longer wanted contact, he continued for more than a month and a half.

In an earlier statement released by Police Scotland, it described Burr's behaviour as going "against everything" the force stands for and said he would now face misconduct proceedings.

Sheriff Mungo Bovey ordered Burr to pay nearly £10,000, with £3,000 of that sum to be paid in compensation to his victim.

Fiscal depute Morgan Ross told the court that Burr and the social worker had met in a professional capacity at some stage during 2024.

After the pair had exchanged emails, Burr then sent the woman a Facebook friend request, which she accepted.

The woman then contacted Burr seeking advice about an incident and they exchanged messages on Facebook Messenger, before moving to WhatsApp.

Following this, the woman received occasional messages from Burr, which were mostly "benign" and she told him she was "not seeking a relationship at this time".

After Burr attended the woman's place of work, she contacted him on March 7 2025 and told him that she no longer wanted to have contact with him.

However, two days later the woman received flowers from Burr that were delivered to her home address.

A short time later, Burr sent a message confirming that he had sent the flowers.

Following this, the woman stopped responding to Burr as he continued to send her "multiple" messages and telephone calls telling her he "wanted to meet up".

He continued to contact the woman repeatedly up until March 12 when they discussed another ongoing incident she was having, during which Burr told her: "I'm always going to be nice and helpful to you if you need it," adding that "There's no point in causing you more stress."

After this, Burr went through a period of sending the woman messages and then unsending them until the woman sent him a message, stating: "Do you not think I have enough s*** going on?"

Burr continued to send messages and then unsend many of them – he also sent her a message on March 16 asking what she was doing over the weekend and if she "wanted to meet up"?

The woman responded by telling Burr: "You have overstepped the boundaries of our relationship on numerous occasions and made me extremely uncomfortable, and so I'm going to stop responding to all other messages."

However, less than a week later, a work colleague saw that a bouquet had been delivered to the woman's workplace, and opened the card, which read: "Sorry, I can explain, Ricky."

The woman saw the flowers and card upon her return to work and was noticeably distressed and expressed frustration about Burr's behaviour, the fiscal depute said.

Burr then sent the woman a joke about social workers and asked if she had received the flowers.

On April 2 last year, the woman had been telling a work colleague about Burr's behaviour while they were working away from her office, and when they returned, she saw a police vehicle within the car park of her workplace.

As the car moved around the car park, the woman saw Burr was the driver but was holding his arms up in an attempt to hide his face. Burr sent the woman another email on April 4, stating: "Just seeing if you wiped my email address when you wiped me from existence. Hope we can meet up."

The woman showed it to a work colleague, who saw her distress and contacted Burr, telling him to stop contacting the woman.

On April 13, the woman told her colleagues she was concerned about Burr's behaviour and they encouraged her to contact the police.

On April 25, she contacted police and reported Burr, who was later cautioned and suspended from duties.

In the dock, Burr admitted engaging in a course of conduct that frightened the woman by making repeated contact with her against her wishes.

Some of this behaviour was carried out while Burr was on duty as a police officer.

Burr – who worked in the Hazlehead and West End Policing Team – was also charged with using the police system and database to access information that was directly and indirectly related to his victim.

His not guilty plea to that allegation was accepted by the Crown.

Defence solicitor Neil McRobert told the court Burr had been a police officer for 22 years, with two of those years as a sergeant.

"It's clear from the social work report that he accepts that his career is over," the solicitor said.

However, Mr McRobert claimed that the relationship between the pair went beyond professional contact and was even close to "intimate" before it turned sour.

"There was a point where the complainer made it clear to Mr Burr that she did not want further contact and he continued that contact," he said.

Mr McRobert said Burr now accepted his behaviour and had sought counselling to deal with his problems.

He also added that, in his view, Burr had already received a degree of "punishment" due to the "damage he'd done to his career and his family unit".

Sentencing Burr, Sheriff Bovey fined the police officer £6,650 and put a compensation order in place for him to pay his victim a total of £3,000.

The sheriff also put a non-harassment order in place, meaning Burr, of Millpark Road, Ellon, cannot approach his victim for three years.

Following the sentence, Chief Superintendent Helen Harrison, head of professional standards for Police Scotland, said: "We are aware of the sentencing outcome, and the matter will now be considered for misconduct proceedings.

"Our thoughts remain with the victim, and I hope this conviction provides them with some reassurance.

"We do ensure all reports are thoroughly investigated, no matter when the offending took place or who the perpetrator is.

"All officers are bound by our Standards of Professional Behaviour, which apply on and off duty, and action is taken when an officer fails to meet these standards."

King plants royal rose at Castle of Mey as he begins summer break

The King has begun his summer break in Scotland by planting a royal rose at the Castle and Gardens of Mey in Caithness.

Charles spends the first week of August at the castle every year, coinciding with the birthday of his grandmother, the late Queen Mother.

During his time at the castle, Charles planted the King's Rose, which was cultivated by David Austin Roses in partnership with The King's Foundation and named in his honour, in the castle's Diamond Jubilee Rose Garden.

It is not the first time the King has added to the gardens.

In August 2005, Charles and Camilla – then the Duke and Duchess of Rothesay – planted two sycamore trees at the front of the castle.

The King's Rose has also been planted at The King's Foundation sister sites – Dumfries House in East Ayrshire and Highgrove Gardens in Gloucestershire.

The Castle and Gardens of Mey was one of the beloved residences of the Queen Mother, who purchased the castle in 1952.

It is now managed and run by The King's Foundation, which oversees a range of green spaces with personal significance to the King.

The Queen Mother typically spent three weeks at the castle in August each year and the King, who has visited from a young age, has continued this tradition.

The Castle and Gardens of Mey will open to the public for tours from Wednesday.

King Charles with the rose at the Caithness residence.

"You have overstepped the boundaries of our relationship on numerous occasions and made me extremely uncomfortable, and so I'm going to stop responding to all other messages

SEE THE DIFFERENCE

"I FELT SO CARED FOR AND WHAT A GIFT TO HAVE THIS PERFECT SIGHT AT 81!"

"AT ALL TIMES, I FELT COMPLETELY COMFORTABLE AND VERY WELL LOOKED AFTER"

"3 DAYS ON CAN'T BELIEVE THE DIFFERENCE ALREADY"

WE KNOW HOW FRUSTRATING CATARACTS ARE SO WE'RE FOCUSSED ON USING YEARS OF LEARNING TO OFFER FAST AFFORDABLE CATARACT SURGERY.

FIND OUT MORE AT ACCORDEYECARE.CO.UK AND SEE THE DIFFERENCE.

ACCORD
EYE CARE

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

TO LET: There are five cottages at Trump International Golf Links – four for five guests each and one for three guests.

Trump resort unveils luxury cottage holiday lets for £1,500 a night

Donald Trump's north-east golf course has unveiled a new set of recently restored plush cottages which will set guests back £1,500 per night.

The "Great North Sea Residences" have been completed at Trump International Golf Links Scotland near Balmedie.

The Trump family's bought the nearby disused former coastguard cottages, with views stretching out over the beach and the course. Each space has access to the residents' putting green, private terraces and "five-star" concierge services.

This week, the course is hosting the Legends' Tour Staysure Seniors PGA Championship, with stars heaping on the praise for the new development.

Executive vice president of Trump Scotland, Sarah Malone, added that this announcement has capped off a "momentous occasion" in the group's history.

The US president purchased the former cottages in 2024, with the project having taken almost two years to complete.

Four of the residences can accommodate up to five guests each and the fifth can cater up to three guests. Each cottage has a private porch, lounge, kitchen, and "grand ensuite guest rooms".

A six-night package with unlimited golf and two four-ball rounds at neighbouring courses is currently being advertised for £3,500 per person.

This comes as the "New Course" at Trump International was named the "best golf course in the world" last year at the World Golf Awards.

Museum and library among sites in line for £27m repairs

BY MONTY HALKERSTON

Repairs and improvements are to be carried out on some of Aberdeen's most famous landmarks as a multi-million-pound spending spree is rolled out.

The works are part of £27 million scheme to improve council-owned buildings in need of some TLC to preserve their futures.

These include Aberdeen Art Gallery, the Central Library, and Maritime Museum.

The council's finance committee approved the upgrades at a meeting this week.

Council co-leader Ian Yull said this showed the authority was "committed" to the buildings under its care.

Committee convener Alex McLellan said these improvements will ensure buildings "regularly used by the public" will be "fit for use for many years to come." The full list of upgrades are:

- Mechanical and electrical equipment at Aberdeen Art Gallery will be replaced, and its management system is to be improved.
- The Arts Centre's clock tower will undergo repair and maintenance works.
- Meanwhile, boiler replacements are planned at the Central Library on Rosemount Viaduct.
- Corroded underground pipework is planned to be improved at the David Welch Winter Gardens in Duthie Park
- The Maritime Museum will receive upgrades to its public address system and CCTV. These works were featured in The P&J's Planning Ahead round-up in October.
- Work will be done at the Mastrick Library to improve accessibility.
- The ceiling of the Bon Accord Room at the Town House, on Castle Street, will be repaired.
- A new fire alarm and intruder alarm system will be installed at the Tolbooth Museum, along with heating and enhanced ventilation. The Tolbooth has been closed since the pandemic. It was previously thought that it might open in 2025.
- There will also be works carried out on the external decorative tiles at the Town House extension on Broad Street.

Meanwhile, cash will go towards improving cemetery walls at graveyards across Aberdeen. In addition to the improvements at historic buildings, the £27m sum will go towards work at schools, sports centres and community buildings in the city.

These projects will be carried out across the next three years, according to the report which went before the committee.

The papers also explain that the closure of the Rosewell House rehab centre has reduced the total floorspace under the council's control, while the reopening of Bucksburn Swimming Pool also "contributed to a change in overall floor area".

Meanwhile, officials warn about the "continued decline in condition of many properties" while "construction inflation has led to increased costs for repairs".

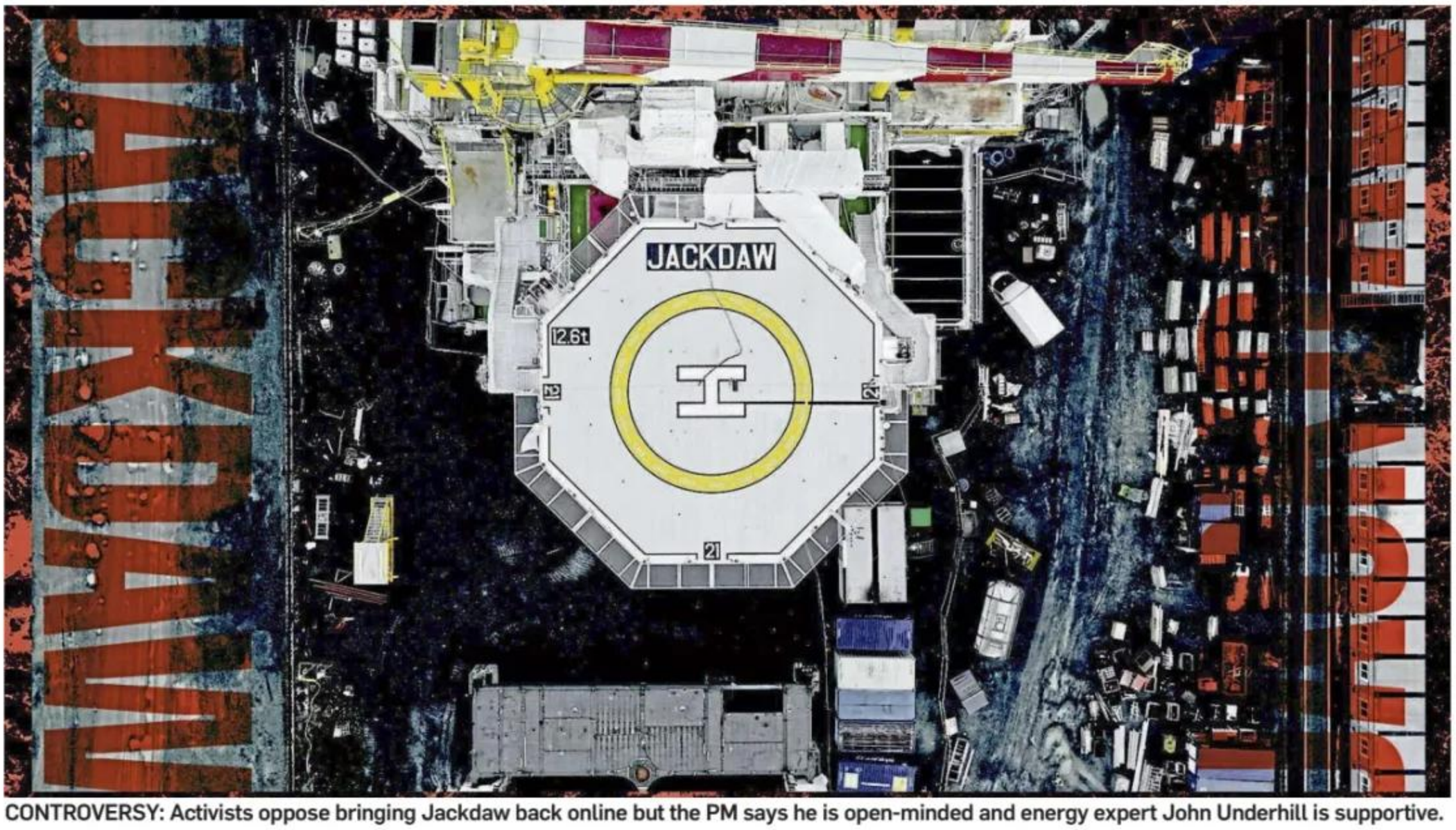
The report adds: "Planned investment figures represent a number of large scale projects which in the longer term will help to improve the overall condition of buildings

"This (programme) will result in improvements to specific buildings, but those not included in the programme will decline."

The Maritime Museum is one of the lucky landmarks.

Decorative tiles at the Town House will be overhauled.

‘Reopen Jackdaw field to safeguard gas supply’



CONTROVERSY: Activists oppose bringing Jackdaw back online but the PM says he is open-minded and energy expert John Underhill is supportive.

BY DENNY ANDONOVA

An Aberdeen energy expert is making an 11th-hour plea to reopen the Jackdaw gas field as he warns imports cannot keep up with demand.

The Adura development off the north-east coast is undergoing an environmental review, which is expected to conclude on Monday.

Jackdaw is one of two advanced projects by the independent oil and gas producer, alongside the Rosebank field west of Shetland.

The public consultation on the latter will end on August 17.

Energy leaders have been campaigning for the two developments to be reopened in a bid to boost domestic production for months.

They argue that approving the fields will restore investors’ confidence in the North Sea industry, create thousands of jobs and generate £28.7 billion of economic value.

There has been speculation that the UK Government is inclined to give the projects consent, with new Prime Minister Andy Burnham saying he is “open-minded”.

And just days before the public consultation on Jackdaw ends, Aberdeen University professor John Underhill has listed the reasons why it should be approved.

The energy transition expert argues the North Sea development would strengthen the country’s energy security and help maintain critical offshore infrastructure.

While the UK was once self-sufficient in oil and gas, domestic production has steadily declined over the past two decades.

In 2025, domestic gas production fell by 3.4% while demand declined by only 1%.

This, he explains, creates a gap between what communities consume and what is being produced, which is increasingly being filled through imports.

Prof John Underhill.

“The fundamental problem is that UK gas production is falling faster than gas demand,” Prof Underhill adds.

“If that gap is not filled by new domestic supply, it must be filled by imports.

“So, given that we still need gas, the key questions are: where do we get it from and what’s the justification for doing so?”

Adura – the operator behind the Jackdaw project – says there would be significant material benefits to opening the gas field.

The company estimates it could provide more than 6% of UK gas supply by this winter, enough to heat around 1.4 million homes annually.

They add that all of Jackdaw’s gas will enter the UK network through existing infrastructure, which would limit the need for major new facilities.

Prof Underhill added: “In other words, over half the homes in Scotland could be served by it when Jackdaw is at peak production.

“In a market where domestic output is declining, dismissing that volume as insignificant ignores how energy systems actually work.”

Half of the supply the country needs is currently fuelled by imports. Norway accounted for 40% of the UK gas supply in 2025, while the US provided 13%.

Prof Underhill argues that relying on external resources is not a long-term solution.

He said: “Norway is already supplying much of Europe and its production is expected to decline.

“Furthermore, we rely primarily on one pipeline, Langeled, which makes it a critical point of failure.

“Norwegian supply cannot expand indefinitely to cover future UK shortfalls and should anything befall Langeled, we would lose half our gas supplies immediately.”

Prof Underhill concludes that reopening Jackdaw is the best solution to safeguard jobs and heat homes until green energy production is up to speed.

“This is not a choice between Jackdaw and renewables,” the energy expert adds. “Renewables should continue to grow as fast as the system can accommodate, but gas still supplied over a quarter of UK electricity generation in 2025.

“Until battery storage, networks and other low-carbon capacity can cover those periods at scale, gas remains a critical source of system resilience.

“Consenting Jackdaw supports not only its own production, but the resilience of strategically important North Sea infrastructure and the skilled workforce around it.”

Outdoor learning and play space for school

Pupils at Brimmond School in Bucksburn have a new outdoor learning and play space, created by a team of volunteers from Barratt and David Wilson Homes North Scotland.

A team of 14 experienced housebuilders joined experts from LIFE Landscaping to transform the outdoor space over five days into a learning and play area.

Lined with newly planted wildflowers, bark and willow trees, it is designed to bring nature-based learning into everyday school life.

The transformation was funded by the Barratt and David Wilson Homes Scotland Community Fund, which will provide over £63,000 this year to charities and community groups in the areas where the housebuilders operate.

David Palmer, managing director at Barratt and David Wilson Homes North Scotland, said: “With our Hopecroft View development just down the road, and Riverside Quarter nearby, Bucksburn is a community we know well.

“Having worked with pupils on previous community initiatives, it was fantastic to be welcomed back to Brimmond School and to see this project come to fruition together.

“We can’t wait to see the difference it makes when the children return after the summer holidays.”

The finished project.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Convicted drug dealer sexually attacked girl, 15, in Broch pub toilet

HIGH COURT: Colin Yeats admitted assaulting the teenager in the ladies' toilets at The Saltoun Inn in Fraserburgh in July last year.

BY DAVE FINLAY

A Fraserburgh criminal carried out a sex attack on a vulnerable 15-year-old girl in a ladies' toilet after he was freed from prison on licence.

Colin Yeats subjected the victim to a penetrative assault in a cubicle, leaving the girl in a "hysterical" condition when she later revealed what happened to her to close friends.

Yeats, 43, admitted assaulting the girl at the Saltoun Inn, in Fraserburgh, by sexually penetrating her on July 26 last year when he appeared at the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday via a TV link to prison.

Advocate depute Chris Jones told the court that Yeats has a criminal record, but not for sexual offending.

He said: "His record includes multiple convictions for drug offences, road traffic offences and breach of court orders."

The prosecutor said that Yeats was released on licence from jail in June 2025, where he was serving a sentence for drug crime.

He was unemployed and living at an address in Buchan Road, Fraserburgh.

The girl had gone out to another pub in Fraserburgh to watch a show on July 26 last year when she encountered Yeats, who bought her a vodka.

Mr Jones said CCTV footage showed Yeats and the girl leaving the bar and walking in the direction of the Saltoun Inn.

He said: "Upon entering the Saltoun Inn they climbed the stairs to the first floor and entered the ladies' toilets.

"The complainer entered a toilet cubicle and the accused followed her into it. The complainer exited the cubicle and moved to another, with the accused following."

Colin Yeats.

"The complainer recalls entering the cubicle. The next she recalls, the accused was kneeling and her jeans and underwear were lowered," he said.

Yeats then assaulted the teenager as she was against a door.

Mr Jones said: "The CCTV footage shows the victim and the accused remained in the toilet cubicle for around eight minutes, before leaving together shortly after an unknown woman entered the toilets."

They returned to the previous bar and the girl was later seen being sick in a lane.

The advocate depute said: "Shortly thereafter the complainer made distressed disclosures to three close confidantes."

She made a video call to a friend, who saw that her eyes were swollen as if she had been crying for some time. She revealed that Yeats sexually assaulted her and said she had been drinking and did not know what was going on. Her friend reassured her it was not her fault.

A relative found the girl in her bedroom crying and hitting herself on the head. She became hysterical as she revealed what occurred.

The girl left her home and female relatives later found her at a 24-hour garage, standing alone and crying.

Yeats claimed during an interview with police that he accompanied the girl to the Saltoun Inn to "meet her lad".

At first he denied entering the women's toilet, but then accepted he did go into the toilets but denied entering the cubicle.

Mr Jones said: "He claimed he had looked into the cubicle and that the complainer was sat, fully dressed, on her phone."

He told police he then went back out of the toilets and waited for her to emerge.

A judge deferred sentence on Yeats for the preparation of a background report on him and risk assessment.

Lord Summers placed him on the sex offenders register.

Chef threw brick at ex-pal's window

A chef who threw a brick through a former friend's front door says he did it because he was being chased by a man with a meat cleaver in an "extra-fast" wheelchair.

Brian Edwards made the claim as he explained to police the reason why he had smashed the front door of the Dunbeg home and demanded money from the occupant.

Edwards, 33, admitted a charge of wilful damage when he appeared at Oban Sheriff Court this week.

The court heard the incident happened on June 19 at Kirk Road, Dunbeg.

Depute fiscal Jane MacNiven said the complainer had earlier loaned another man £20, which was due to be repaid later that evening. However, messages were then sent from the other man's phone asking him to send more money.

The complainer, who uses a wheelchair, later met Edwards and spoke to him through the window of his home.

Ms MacNiven told the court Edwards said: "You better give me this money or I will throw this brick through your window."

The fiscal said Edwards then kicked the front door before throwing a brick through a glass pane, showering the complainer with shards of glass.

Edwards, of Lora View, North Connel, was fined £250 and ordered to pay a £20 victim surcharge.

Brian Edwards.

UNINVITED GUEST: The couple were staying at the Dundee Strathmore Avenue hotel.

Pair 'petrified' over stranger in hotel room

BY JAMES SIMPSON

A Buckie couple say they were left "absolutely petrified" after waking to find a shirtless stranger standing inside their hotel room at a Travelodge.

The incident, at the Dundee Strathmore Avenue hotel, happened in the early hours of Saturday July 11.

Kim Hutchison, 60, and Harry Grieve, 57, were staying at the hotel while visiting relatives in Dundee when the man entered their room.

The couple say the man had mistakenly been issued a keycard for their room and remained inside for around a minute, insisting he was in the correct place.

Kim told the BBC she woke to the sound of the door opening and saw a man wearing only shorts standing at the foot of the bed.

"I asked why he was in this room, and he said, 'This is my room', and I said, 'This is ours'," she said.

"He kept saying '316' and I said, 'No, this is 313'.

"I was absolutely petrified."

Harry went to reception to find out how someone had been able to access their room, but said he was unable to find a member of staff.

Police later attended the hotel in connection with a separate disturbance around the same time.

No arrests were made.

The couple said they pushed a chair against their bedroom door before attempting to get back to sleep, but later decided to cut their stay short and return home.

Travelodge later refunded the cost of their stay and provided them with a £100 voucher.

The hotel chain said it had since spoken directly to Harry and Kim to apologise for their experience.

A Travelodge spokesperson said: "Customer safety and security is – and remains – a priority for us.

"We are very sorry for Mr Grieve and Ms Hutchison's experience.

"Any case of an unauthorised person entering a guest's room is a significant cause for concern and we want to be clear that this should not have happened.

"We investigated this incident when Mr Grieve and Ms Hutchison first reported it to us, which confirmed that our updated room access security policies were not correctly followed in this instance, which is not acceptable.

"We have retrained the team at our Dundee Strathmore Avenue hotel on our updated room security and check-in procedures and would like to apologise again to Mr Grieve and Ms Hutchison for their experience with us."

Travelodge said it updated its room access security policy across its 600-plus UK hotels in March.

Under the revised policy, any additional or replacement room key can only be issued with explicit, in-person permission from the registered guest staying in the room.

The company said the changes are supported by staff training for its customer-facing employees.

It added that all of its hotels have 24-hour reception desks, overnight security patrols and revised procedures for investigating serious customer-reported incidents.

TV ambulance crew rush to the aid of former school bus driver

A Buckie ambulance technician was reunited with her former school bus driver after she came to his aid when he began experiencing his fourth stroke.

Elaine and crewmate Vickie were returning to base when they were alerted to a 76-year-old man in difficulties.

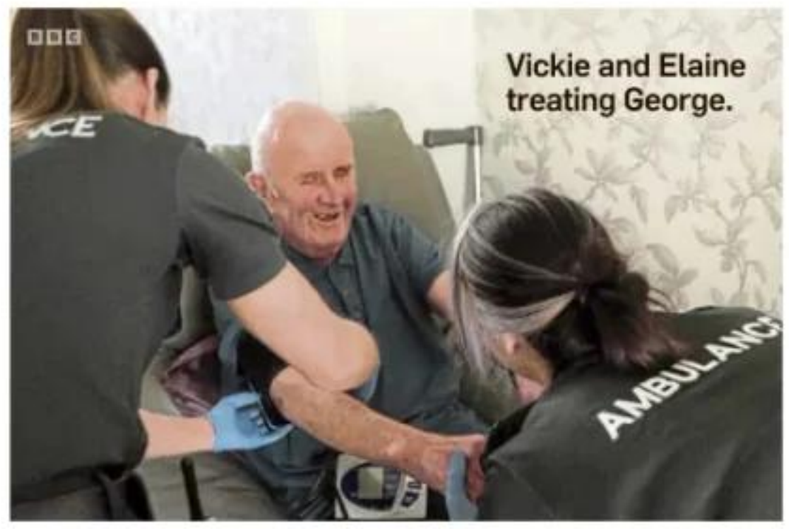
Upon arrival, she was met by a familiar face – her former school bus driver George.

The reunion was captured on camera during the filming of BBC Scotland's Paramedics On Scene.

After carrying out a FAST test, the crew quickly established George had suffered a partial facial droop and had begun losing feeling in his left hand.

For the ambulance crew, time was of the essence.

Elaine said: "A stroke can occur if there has been a lack of oxygen to a certain part of the brain.



Vickie and Elaine treating George.

"So it is really important that they go to the hospital for the treatment they need."

Paramedic Vickie added: "Strokes are time critical in an emergency.

"Luckily for George, he lives in Buckie, so it was a short trip for us to get to him."

Accompanied by his wife Joyce, George was rushed to Dr Gray's Hospital in Elgin for emergency treatment.

Thanks to the quick actions of all involved, George made it to hospital within the four-and-a-half-hour time window to receive clot-busting medication to reverse his condition.

Elaine was delighted to be reunited with the same "happy George" she fondly remembers.

She said: "Those are the people that you remember – the ones that make you smile and make you laugh. It was nice to see him again."

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Handbell-ringing event makes big noise in city

BY LAUREN TAYLOR AND SOPHIE FARQUHARSON

A handbell convention that has been hosted in the US and Japan has brought hundreds of people to Aberdeen this week.

The Handbell Symposium is taking place at the P&J Live, with 800 people from across the world coming to the Granite City to get involved.

It started on Monday and will run until Sunday, with a public performance being held on Saturday.

Before coming to the north-east, the convention had been held in Nashville in the US, and Hamamatsu in Japan.

Next year, it will be held in Singapore.

Rob Wicks, boss of the P&J Live, said the events arena has been filled with the sounds of ringing bells all week.

"This is a slightly unusual and different event for us to be hosting," he says. "Not something one would get in Aberdeen every day, that's for sure.

"It's wonderful to welcome them to the city."

A glance at Booking.com for last night shows 86% of places to stay in Aberdeen are booked up.

Mr Wicks says there are about 800 people attending the Handbell Symposium at P&J Live, which organisers have told him has been their "biggest event yet".

He adds: "We're delighted, obviously, to have it here because we know what it can do for the city.

"People have come from around the world, staying in our hotels, eating in our restaurants, visiting the various attractions around the city and experiencing Aberdeen."

While hundreds of musicians gathered for a rehearsal at the P&J Live, we spoke with visitors to find out what they think of Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire.

The Handbell Symposium has brought together people from 15 different countries, ranging from the ages of eight to 96. Joyce Lo has travelled from Hong Kong for the event, and has been attending Handbell Symposiums all over the world for 16 years.

PUTTING IN THE MILES: Eunice Chang has travelled all the way from New Zealand. Pictures by Kami Thomson.

Despite this being the musician's second time in the Granite City, she was buzzing to be returning once again.

"I love all the scenery because it's so different from Hong Kong," she says.

"Also because Aberdeen is a coastal city, I love the sea and I love all the seagulls," Joyce adds with a smile.

Marton German, who is from Hungary, is visiting Scotland for the first time and says he "really wants to see Aberdeen".

He has been playing handbells for 20 years now.

The musician says he has had a very busy schedule which means he hasn't had much time to explore.

However, Marton is looking forward to "seeing the city centre and the seashore" this weekend.

He adds: "I've heard that there are so many castles here and I love this traditional architecture... It's so different from central Europe."

Eunice Chang has made a big journey all the way from New Zealand for the event.

This is the 12-year-old's second Handbell Symposium and she has been playing the instrument since she was four.

Eunice says she was excited to come to Scotland and to visit Aberdeen for the first time.

Whilst she has been out exploring the area, Eunice says she thought the "castles were cool".

Although it is a long way to travel from New Zealand, she says she wants to come back again, but next she is off to visit the Highlands.

Damien Lim, who is from Singapore, is another musician visiting Scotland for the first time.

"I was most excited to come over and experience a different site and a different culture," he says.

While he has been here Damien says he has enjoyed exploring the city centre.

And he is full of praise for the food, enjoying "lovely seafood" at the Silver Darling and notes proudly that he has had haggis twice in two days.

Damien also says the people here are "lovely" and "very hospitable".

One highlight of the Handbell Symposium for the musician is seeing everyone come together for the event.

"It's a gathering of friends from all over the world, and it's handbells that brought us together," he says with a smile.

Arena boss Mr Wicks hopes that everyone attending the conference "leaves as advocates of Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire". He adds part of the strategy over the last three years has been to broaden the mix of events that they attract to P&J Live – from music and sport to energy conferences.

The Handbell Symposium choosing Aberdeen indicates to the arena boss that it's working.

He added: "The fact that they have chosen Aberdeen following places like Nashville, which has such a strong history around music, and Japan tells us that Aberdeen is really capable of competing for international events across a really broad range of sectors and interests."

Full of praise: Damien Lim, from Singapore.

Marton German, from Hungary, at the event.

Armed officers at beach

Police yesterday surrounded Muzo's Turkish Kitchen at Aberdeen Beach.

Officers, including armed officers, first arrived on the scene at about 9am yesterday morning.

Three vehicles were spotted on the pavement outside the restaurant on the Beach Esplanade.

Two vans and a car appeared to be guarding the doors of the Turkish diner that also contains Demeska Italian Tapas Bar.

An officer was also seen standing in the doorway.

An eyewitness told The Press and Journal they saw four or five police officers entering the restaurant with "equipment".

A police spokesperson said: "Officers, including armed officers, are in attendance in relation to an ongoing inquiry.

"There is no risk to the wider public."

Funnel cloud spotted

A huge funnel cloud was spotted over Aberdeenshire after the Met Office warned parts of the north-east could experience a "weak tornado".

The dramatic weather phenomenon was seen near Huntly on Wednesday night as thunderstorms swept across the region under a yellow weather warning.

Reader Laura McDonald sent a video of the funnel cloud and the "scary" moment she captured it on camera.

Your Free Way For Digital Magazines & Newspapers
Only @ Sanet.St

Your Way For All Free
exclusives EBooks &
Digital magazines

This PDF Downloaded from

Www.Sanet.st

EXPANSION: It is hoped the new rail link at the 'cloud factory' will take thousands of HGVs off the A96. Pictures by Maria Strang.

Firm's freight rail link is a win-win, says Flynn

BY WILL ANGUS

Stephen Flynn has told The P&J a new rail freight expansion at Inverness' "cloud factory" "feels like a win-win in every direction".

We met with the transport secretary inside West Fraser's timber processing plant as it unveiled a new freight rail connection.

The plant, known locally as the "cloud factory," has a junction on the Aberdeen to Inverness road between the Highland capital and its airport.

The factory has moved to freight to take thousands of HGVs off the A96 and reduce its emissions.

Highland councillors first discussed plans for West Fraser's expansion into rail freight last year.

The expansion only came about after the addition of the Inverness Airport train station which brought signalling improvements to allow freight to join the rail lines nearby.

They were granted permission for a phased approach with the first now completed to take 20,000 HGVs off the A96 each year in favour of rail transport.

Transport Secretary Stephen Flynn, right, during his visit to West Fraser's timber processing plant near Inverness.

The second phase is scheduled to be completed by 2028, and will double HGV removals to 40,000 off the trunk road – the equivalent of 60% of their pre-rail lorry traffic.

Councillors previously raised some concerns about the rail siding's operational hours and its effect on neighbouring houses, and reduced their Saturday hours from 8am to 8pm, to 8am to 1pm.

However, earlier this year West Fraser returned to the council arguing the Saturday times were "unacceptable", as they did not work with the strict rail schedule.

Council planners were content to grant the changes, but councillors remained wary.

At the time, planning chairman Paul Oldham said he was "wary" about West Fraser's proposals and said: "I don't like the situation where we, as a committee, made a decision for a good reason at the time and then have it come back."

However, after West Fraser's plans to make a gantry crane run electric and switch train engines off to reduce noise, councillors backed the plans.

"We should be encouraging anybody to move off the road with lorries and to move on to rail," Inverness Ness-side Labour councillor Andrew MacKintosh added.

Speaking to The P&J at the new sidings, Cabinet secretary Mr Flynn said: "It goes without saying that the more large vehicles you can take off of the roads, the better it's going to be for everyone.

"It's good for business because they can deliver with greater capacity loads.

"It's good for our economy, because it means the roads are moving quicker for the businesses in terms of moving those goods. It feels like a win-win in every direction."

Mr Flynn also spoke about the Scottish Government issuing £1.94 billion worth of contracts for upcoming A9 dualling projects.

"That's something that I'm very keen to see done," he said.

"We've also got investment going into the A96 with the dualling up until Nairn and the bypass.

"We'll get to a point where we can deliver upon our full commitments."

He said this is "not easy" but he wants to "send a clear signal" to Highlands and Islands residents that the Scottish Government is on their side.

Plans to revamp lochside pub are praised

Plans for the major transformation of a Loch Ness pub by a company owned by Scotland's richest man have been labelled as "exemplary".

WildLand, a company controlled by Danish billionaire Anders Povlsen, submitted the final proposals for the revamp of the Dores Inn in April, following two public consultations.

The ambitious plans, first announced in June 2025, include the renovation and expansion of the building, a new cafe/bakery, a shop, and the creation of two car parks with a combined capacity of approximately 100 vehicles.

Yesterday, Highland Council's south planning application committee gave the green light to the major proposals.

Councillors praised the "exemplary" public consultation undertaken by WildLand and said the revamped pub will be "a good addition to the area".

Members added the development "will help tourism" and improve the beach facilities for locals visiting all year round.

They unanimously agreed to approve the plans.

Aird and Loch Ness councillor David Fraser, who had previously heavily criticised the Fanellan project earlier in the meeting, recognised the "major investment" involved in the Dores Inn development while praising the transparency of the public consultation.

He said: "They have done a very good job with the consultation with the community."

Similarly, Councillor Chris Ballance said: "Consultation has been exemplary here. It's a good addition to the area and it will help tourism."

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Campsite set to reopen after wildfire torment

BY WILL ANGUS

'LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL': Brian Fulton, co-owner of Glenmore Campsite in the Cairngorms, which has been closed for three weeks due to the devastating wildfire.

Glenmore Campsite, which has now been shut for three weeks due to the Cairngorms wildfire, believes it will be able to open again soon.

Co-owner Brian Fulton told The Press and Journal it is "nice to see" preparations being made to welcome back campers after what has been an uneasy time.

They have had to cancel 1,400 bookings in the last three weeks – over what is supposed to be their peak season.

The campsite has now welcomed a £3 million support package from the Scottish Government to support businesses in the area affected by the wildfire.

The P&J spoke to Mr Fulton after three weeks of persistent closure which has ruined the summer season for his businesses in Glenmore.

The campsite was first evacuated on July 16, as the fire began to spread across the Cairngorms and smoke was billowing over the mountains, obscuring Cairngorm Mountain's webcams.

It has remained closed ever since and a Scottish Fire and Rescue Service cordon has been restricting access to the site.

Mr Fulton explained they have now cancelled and refunded around 1,400 bookings, which equates to around 15-20% of their turnover for the year.

It came during what "would have been our busiest three weeks of the year," they said online at the time.

Mr Fulton said it is "nice to see" light at the end of the tunnel and it is looking like Glenmore will be open again soon.

He said: "The fear for us has been the fact of not knowing, not knowing when and if we can get back open.

"All while watching the height of our season, when the Scottish and English schools are all off, slipping away.

"The summer money pays the winter bills. It's been really tough for us."

He, along with other businesses in the area, is keen to stress that Glenmore will soon be back open for business and is encouraging visitors to return to the area.

"The fact now that it looks like we're going to get open tomorrow is huge for us," he said.

"There's been some extremely dramatic pictures and you can see the devastation.

"But we're just so glad that they managed to protect us and curtail the fire and that we're safe now.

"It was phenomenal, unbelievable, just the amount of people that got involved, everybody out and about, just trying to create fire breaks.

"Everybody banded together extremely well over the last three weeks.

"We've made a lot of closer ties with local businesses, and hopefully with Forestry and Land Scotland and the fire service.

"The hope is that continues and we can all work together."

Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport Stephen Flynn was also in attendance beyond the cordon and spoke directly to Mr Fulton and others that have been involved in fighting the wildfire.

The Scottish Government has announced £3m in support funding for businesses affected by the wildfire, organised through Highland Council.

Highland Council convener and Badenoch and Strathspey councillor Bill Lobban said he remains "concerned that this initial sum of £3m is nowhere near enough to help our area recover".

However, speaking to The P&J at Glenmore, Mr Flynn said it was a "fair amount of money on the table" for those affected.

He said: "The impact is so great because this is peak season, it's going to be difficult for them.

"But hopefully, this is a fairly sizeable building block that allows them to get on and do what they do best, which is to sell Scotland to the world.

"This is just a start point and we're going to be with them every step of the way to make sure that this wonderful part of Scotland gets back to what it's known for, which is a beautiful place to visit."

He added the usually bustling tourist hotspot felt like it was "a little bit like Covid" because "it is so eerie".

"There should be people and kids buzzing around, the water should be packed with folk having a good time, and that's not the case," he said.

"It's why it's so important that I am here to be able to say to Glenmore Campsite and to so many others that we are standing with you."

Stephen Flynn in Inverness, Page 11

The wildfire has scorched large parts of the Cairngorms.

Tourism Secretary Stephen Flynn visited the scene.

STRONG FOUNDATIONS: Part of the team at Links Lodge.

Angus dental practice now in new hands

BY KIRSTEN JOHNSON

An Angus dental practice with more than 13,000 patients has changed hands.

Links Lodge Dental Practice in Montrose was put on the market when the long-term owners decided to retire.

It has been acquired by multi-site operator Dr Naga Narra, who also has practices in Aberdeen, Westhill and Elgin.

Links Lodge Dental Practice had been owned by Dr Iain Campbell and Dr David Gibb since 1999.

Under their ownership, the mixed-income practice expanded, growing from five surgeries to eight and benefiting from substantial investment in facilities and technology.

Based in a 140-year-old former merchant's house on John Street in Montrose, it serves approximately 13,400 patients.

Dr Campbell and Dr Gibb have retired from practice ownership but will continue to work post-sale in a clinical capacity.

The pair said: "We acquired Links Lodge Dental Practice in 1999 and have spent the last 25 years growing and investing in the business, expanding the premises, modernising facilities and building a strong team to support an ever-growing patient base.

The practice is based in a former merchant's house.

"Following a rewarding and successful period of ownership, we feel the time is right to pass the practice on to new owners who can build on the strong foundations we have created.

"We are immensely proud of what has been achieved and hope the practice continues to thrive, providing excellent care while embracing future opportunities for growth and innovation."

New owner Dr Narra said: "I was attracted to Links Lodge Dental because of its excellent reputation, loyal patient base, strong community presence, and clear potential for future growth.

"My aim is to build on the solid foundations already in place by maintaining the high standard of care, enhancing the patient experience, and expanding treatment options for local patients through the introduction of services such as dental implants, orthodontics, and facial aesthetics."

Joel Mannix from Christie & Co, who handled the sale, said: "This is a well-established and highly regarded practice, with a strong reputation for patient care and an excellent platform for future growth.

"I am delighted to have helped facilitate the sale to Naga, who has an exciting vision for the practice and is well placed to build on its success."

Police rush to break up court brawl which 'shook building'

Oban Sheriff Court.

A fight broke out inside Oban Sheriff Court, with police officers rushing from the courtroom to break up the disturbance.

The commotion erupted shortly after 12pm on Wednesday while court proceedings were under way.

Witnesses inside the courtroom said shouting and banging could be heard from below, with the building "shaking" as the altercation unfolded.

Press and Journal reporter Louise Glen was covering a trial at the time of the fight and felt the building tremble and alerted court officers.

Court officers and others could be seen rushing to try to de-escalate the situation.

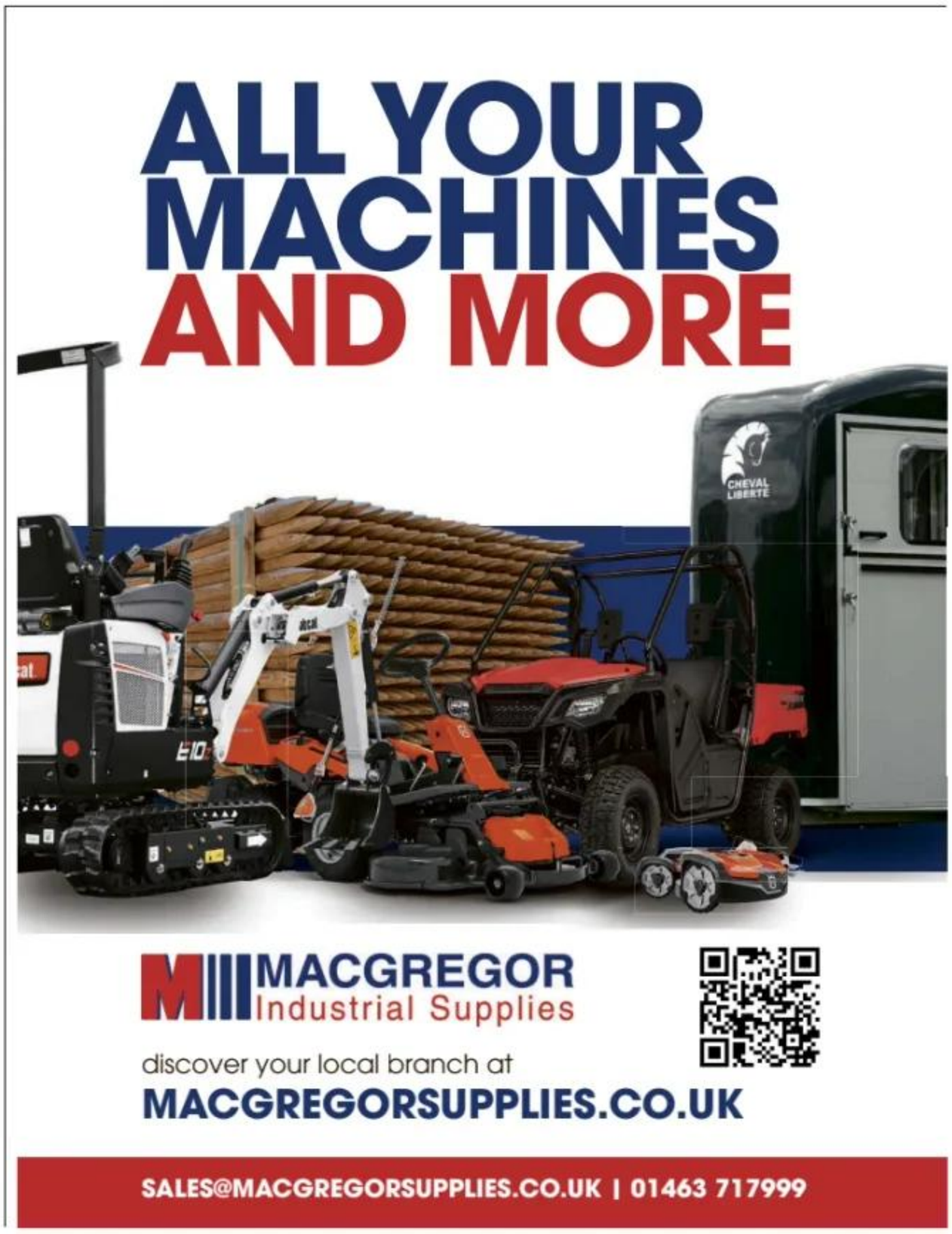
Police officers who had been on duty in the courtroom immediately ran downstairs, while additional officers were called to the scene.

It is understood at least one man was injured.

Oban Sheriff Court is also the office of the procurator fiscal, and a number of office workers were in the building at the time.

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: "Around 12.05pm on Wednesday August 5, we received a report of a disturbance in the Albany Street area of Oban.

"Officers attended and those involved had moved off. Inquiries are ongoing to trace them."



THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Lawyers seek UK medical records of dead aid worker

CASE: The derelict building in Athens, where the body of Elisabeth-Jane Ross, below, was discovered last month.

BY NICK FORBES

Lawyers acting for the man accused of killing Elisabeth-Jane Ross have asked a court to obtain her medical records from the UK, it has been confirmed.

The 38-year-old aid worker, who was known as Lisa, was found dead inside a suitcase by a homeless man in a derelict building in the Kypseli area of Athens on July 18.

Sharif Ahmadzai, 26, has been charged with homicide with intent, along with weapons and robbery offences.

Homicide with intent is understood to be equivalent to a murder charge in Scotland.

Ahmadzai exercised his right to remain silent when he appeared in court in Athens yesterday, and did not submit a plea to any of the charges.

His lawyer, Christos Erdas, said this is because they are waiting for further medical evidence to be submitted to the court.

He told the Press Association: "The reason for the silence is because we are waiting in the near future for some more documents and evidence to come to the judge.

"All of them are related to medical documents from the doctor who examined Lisa's body."

He said the cause of Ms Ross's death is still yet to be established, and this information is needed before his client will be in a position to submit a plea.

Greek police said last week there were no signs of injury or harm on Ms Ross's body when it was discovered.

They said further tests are being carried out to establish how she died.

Mr Erdas also said they had put in a request for Ms Ross's own medical records to be obtained from the UK as part of the evidence in the case.

"At the same time we also asked the judge to order the communication with the authorities in Scotland and the UK, to get all the medical papers for Lisa," he said.

A Police Scotland spokesperson said: "We are aware of the death of a Scottish woman in Athens and are liaising with authorities in Greece.

"Officers are providing support to her family in Scotland."

> The reason for the silence is because we are waiting in the near future for some more documents and evidence to come to the judge

Government urged to 'get a grip' on repairs needed on NHS estate

The Scottish Government has been urged to "get a grip" on repairs required in the NHS estate.

It comes after it was reported in the Herald that a third of Scotland's NHS estate has major defects.

The paper reported that in response to a parliamentary question from Scottish Conservative MSP Miles Briggs, Health Secretary Angela Constance said statistics show 34% of the estate has been assessed as being in condition C or D – meaning urgent repairs are required.

The Tory said: "These shocking figures are a damning indictment of the SNP's mismanagement of Scotland's NHS estate.

"It is disgraceful that so many buildings across the country are in such a dire state after two decades of SNP rule. Our NHS is literally crumbling under the SNP. Their failures to deliver the infrastructure required for the modern age could potentially be putting patients and staff at risk.

"Angela Constance as the SNP's latest health secretary needs to urgently get a grip on this situation."

A Scottish Government spokesperson said: "Cost and affordability are key challenges with Scotland's capital block grant set to reduce in real terms by 5.7% by 2029-30.

"We are working with all health boards to develop a whole system NHS infrastructure plan to support continued, safe and effective use of existing facilities, as well as determination of longer-term investment priorities."

Health alerts issued as temperatures to hit 33C

Heat health alerts have been issued for large parts of England as temperatures are expected to climb back up over the weekend, potentially reaching 33C next week.

Temperatures had dropped down closer to averages for this time of year from Wednesday, but they are expected to rise again from tomorrow, according to the Met Office.

By next Tuesday, much of central and southern England as well as some parts of Wales are set to see highs of 30C to 33C, the forecaster said.

The UK Health Security Agency has issued yellow heat health alerts for the East Midlands, West Midlands, south-east, south-west, east of England, Yorkshire and the Humber, and London.

They will come into force at 9am tomorrow and end at 9pm on Tuesday August 11.

"The warm weather is continuing once again," said Honor Criswick, meteorologist at the Met Office, adding that today is set to be a "nice, dry, settled day with quite a bit of warm sunshine around".

Tomorrow, Northern Ireland and parts of Scotland can expect to see some cloud and outbreaks of rain, while it will be another dry day with plenty of sunshine elsewhere.

HOME FROM HOME: The luxury motorhome bought by Peter Murrell.

SNP writes off Murrell campervan

BY CRAIG PATON

The SNP has written off the value of the motorhome disgraced former chief executive Peter Murrell bought with party funds and left in his mum's Dunfermline driveway.

The party's balance sheet, published yesterday by the Electoral Commission, shows the value of the £100,000 vehicle has been removed from its books.

Murrell – the estranged husband of former first minister Nicola Sturgeon – pled guilty to embezzling more than £400,000 from the SNP earlier this year and was sentenced to more than five years in prison.

During the long-running Operation Branchform police investigation which snared Murrell the campervan became an object of scorn and ridicule.

While it was initially claimed the vehicle would be used to campaign for the SNP during the pandemic, court records showed Murrell bought a number of guides for campervan holidays around the same time.

Google satellite images capture the £124,000 vehicle in Fife two years before Nicola Sturgeon says she had any knowledge of its existence.

It also emerged in the accounts Murrell is still owed £60,000 from a loan he gave the party in 2021.

The figure remains on the balance sheet but the party says Murrell has not "formally requested" the sum back and it is unsure if it will have to be repaid.

A note in the accounts said: "The former chief executive has not formally requested repayment of the outstanding balance.

"Due to the absence of agreed repayment terms and the lack of recent communication regarding settlement, there is uncertainty as to when, or if, this loan will be repaid."

A proceeds of crime hearing is expected to take place next month. The party seeks "to recover from the guilty party the full amount embezzled", according to treasurer Peter Grant.

Scottish Tory finance spokesman Craig Hoy said the accounts "raise further serious questions" for the SNP.

"The fact they still technically owe the crooked Peter Murrell £60,000 is astonishing," he said.

An SNP spokesperson said: "Our accounts show the position of the loan as of the end of 2025, since that point Mr Murrell has pled guilty to embezzling more than £400,000 from the party.

"In light of this, the party is pursuing the full recovery of the money stolen from us and will not be making any payment to Mr Murrell."

Scot on UK's most wanted list arrested

A Scottish man on the UK's most wanted list has been arrested by police in Spain.

John Rocks, 37, was arrested in Madrid after appearing on the UK National Crime Agency and Crimestoppers' most wanted list in connection with several alleged sexual offences between 2012 and 2022.

Spanish police said his arrest followed a two-year investigation after officers were alerted that Rocks may have been in the country.

In 2026, Rocks was subject to an international arrest warrant issued by British authorities.

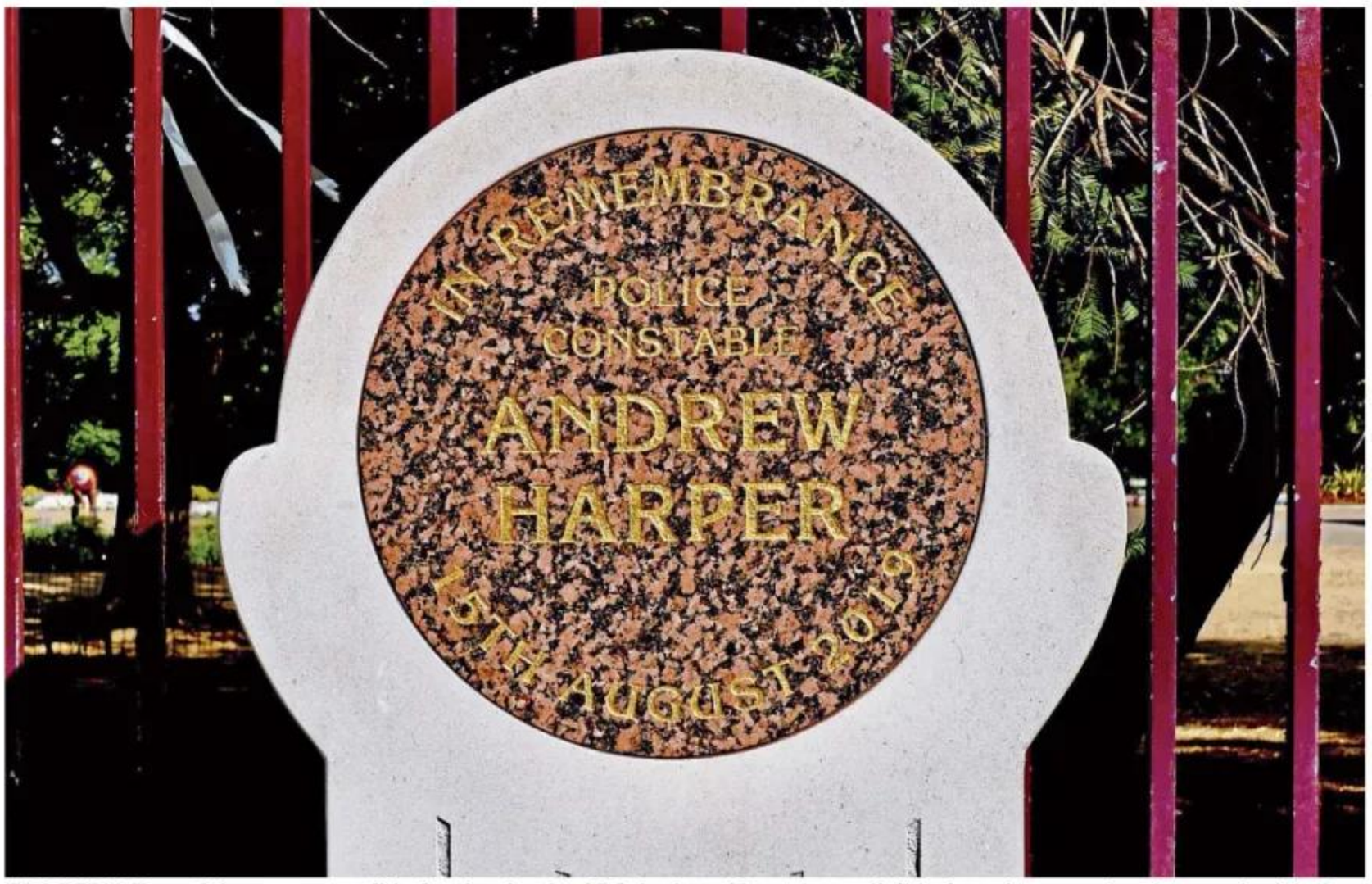
Spain's National Police said investigators travelled to Benidorm several times, carrying out surveillance operations at places he was known to frequent.

On August 1, after obtaining evidence he might be in Madrid, a surveillance operation was set up.

Spanish police said Rocks was identified by his tattoos before fingerprint checks confirmed he was the man wanted by Police Scotland.

He later appeared in a Madrid court and remains in custody pending a decision on his extradition to the UK.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026



TRAGEDY: Two of those responsible for the death of PC Andrew Harper are eligible for release under the new legislation.

Early-release law triggers review to identify groomers

BY NINA LLOYD

Andy Burnham's government is "urgently" identifying any grooming gang perpetrators who may still be eligible for early prison release as concerns were raised about a potential loophole in the system.

The prime minister has "personally intervened" to ensure that "everything possible is being done so that vile groomers are dealt with in the way their victims deserve", a spokesperson said yesterday.

Some 5,000 people are expected to be released early under sentencing changes, down from 6,000 after ministers excluded rapists and "serious" child sex offenders from the scheme designed to tackle overcrowding in jails.

But critics have questioned the scope of exemptions after the Times reported that some men convicted in relation to historical grooming gang cases could be among those freed under the plans.

Some of the offending took place before sexual abuse laws were changed in 2003 and the perpetrators were charged with crimes including indecent assault, which does not fall within the exclusions to the scheme starting in October.

Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch wrote to Mr Burnham on Wednesday demanding answers as to which offences would be eligible for early release and accusing the government of "yet another betrayal of the victims".

In a statement yesterday a spokesperson for the prime minister said: "As part of the review of sentences, the prime minister asked the Ministry of Justice to conduct an in-depth review of cases to ensure that grooming cases were identified.

"This work is happening urgently. This is extremely important to the PM and he has personally intervened to ensure everything possible is being done so that vile groomers are dealt with in the way their victims deserve."

Elsewhere, the government has resisted pressure to exempt two of PC Andrew Harper's killers from early release as the boss of his former force considers joining a potential legal challenge over the plans.

The scheme could see Jessie Cole and Albert Bowers freed halfway through their 13-year sentences for manslaughter following the officer's death in 2019.

PC Harper sustained fatal injuries after getting caught in a strap attached to the back of a car and being dragged down a country road as the killers fled the scene of a quad bike theft in Sulhamstead, Berkshire.

The driver of the vehicle, Henry Long, received a 16-year sentence and will not be eligible for release under the scheme.

Thames Valley Police Chief Constable Jason Hogg said he was receiving legal advice on whether the force could join a legal challenge mooted by local Police Federation chief Aileen O'Connor to prevent Cole and Bowers being freed.

The prime minister has said he wanted to "go further" with the exemptions after ordering a review of the scheme, but this was "not possible without the prison system reaching capacity and collapsing".

Those released will face tougher probation conditions, including electronic monitoring, random drug testing and possible bans from driving, pubs and events such as football matches.

The changes were part of the Sentencing Act passed earlier this year which cut the minimum amount of time many offenders would have to spend in prison.

Badenoch rules out making deals with 'woke' Reform UK

Kemi Badenoch described Reform UK as "woke" as she again ruled out a deal with Nigel Farage's party.

The Conservative leader told the Political Currency podcast she would make no pact with Reform before or after the next election.

Asked why she would not support a deal, she said she did not want the public to be "confused about what this Conservative Party stands for".

She said: "Reform are a woke party, and I know a lot of people don't understand, the word woke is used to mean many things, a lot of people assume it's a left-wing thing.

"But when I talk about woke, I talk about people who, it's all grievance, it's victim narratives, people are doing this to us, oppressor narratives, this is the oppressor class.

"On the left it's whites are the oppressors or men are the oppressors, on the right it's the establishment are the oppressors, look at what they're doing to us."

Describing a deal as a "non-starter", she said: "I don't see how I could possibly have people like that in some form of coalition."

Kemi Badenoch.

Reform home affairs spokesman Zia Yusuf hit back at a press conference yesterday, saying: "I don't think Kemi's had the best few days, and she's obviously lashed out at Reform.

"She said that we're a party that has, you know, we have grievances. I would agree with that. We do have a grievance. We have a grievance of the fact that (they) spent 14 years lying to the British public."

He said the party had claimed they would reduce net legal migration down to the tens of thousands but it instead reached nearly one million, and also attacked its record on the prisons system and small boat crossings.

Lowe declines to say King is 'white Briton'

Restore Britain leader Rupert Lowe has declined to say, when asked, whether he thinks the King is a "white Briton".

It comes after Mr Lowe said "white Britons will become a minority by 2063" in a video in which he offered to work with Nigel Farage's Reform UK.

The BBC's Nick Robinson asked Mr Lowe about the issue on the Today programme yesterday, noting the forecast he referred to defines a white Briton as someone whose parents were both born in the UK.

Mr Robinson asked: "Are you aware that, by the definitions used in that particular report, King Charles is not a white Briton? Do you think he is a white Briton?"

Responding, Mr Lowe said: "Well, many people have different interpretations of that... we can split hairs."

Mr Robinson interjected: "We're not splitting hairs, do you think the monarch of this country is a white Briton?"

Mr Lowe said: "The experience of what we're talking about is quite clear and I think most British people, if you speak to them, would agree."

After Mr Robinson pointed out that Prince Philip was born in Greece so would not, under the definition, be a "white Briton" Mr Lowe accused him of steering the questioning away from the point of the interview, which was Restore's economic plans and a possible deal with Reform and urged him to move on.

LOVE LOCAL

BEST OF SCOTLAND

Scottish Pork
Halls
Prestwick

Succulent Scottish pork.

The best of homegrown produce is closer than you think.

Nature's Glen Scottish Pork Loin Steaks, 480g

£2.99

ALDI

Nature's Glen Scottish Pork Loin Steaks 480g, £2.99, £6.23 per kg. Subject to availability. While stocks last. Product and price may vary in store, Scotland, Wales, Aldi Local and online. Photography shows serving suggestion.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Rape reports at Army college 'unacceptable'

BY MATHILDE GRANDJEAN

SMART TURNOUT: A graduation parade was held yesterday at Harrogate's Army Foundation College to mark the conclusion of basic training for approximately 900 junior soldiers. No mention was made of the controversy.

Reports of rape and sexual abuse against female recruits at a military training college for teenagers are "extremely distressing" and "unacceptable", the Army has said.

Four young women told the BBC they suffered sexual abuse and harassment while at the Army Foundation College (AFC) at Harrogate in North Yorkshire, which provides basic training to under-19s.

The Army has now called for victims and witnesses of criminal behaviour at the college to come forward.

"Unacceptable and criminal behaviour has absolutely no place in our Armed Forces and these reports are extremely distressing and serious," a spokesperson for the Army said yesterday.

"We encourage anyone who has experienced or witnessed unacceptable or criminal behaviour at the Army Foundation College to come forward."

The spokesperson added: "We know this can be difficult and that's why a number of changes have been made in recent years to support victims, including the creation of the Defence Serious Crime Command, which is independent and outside of the Army chain of command and has a specialist team who help victims throughout the process of justice."

A woman whom the BBC called Tilly told the broadcaster she had been raped aged 17 at the college by fellow soldiers.

She said the attack lasted for hours and took place after she was casually invited into a soldier's room.

"They started taking my clothes off and then this led to them doing stuff I didn't consent to," Tilly said.

"And then I was raped... by multiple junior soldiers, same age as me.

"It went on for hours. I felt like a piece of meat."

Another woman whom the BBC called Monica said she was sexually assaulted by a fellow soldier who trapped her in a room before kissing and touching her without her consent.

Another woman, whose story was shared with the BBC by her mother, was allegedly sexually assaulted and subjected to sexual harassment.

Instructors were accused of inappropriate behaviour including marking girls' looks out of 10 and walking into the dorms without knocking while cadets were undressed, according to the BBC.

The Army spokesperson said the most recent Ofsted report and visit by the Children's Commissioner and safeguarding authorities in January 2026 "recognised the culture of care (at AFC) and the confidence junior soldiers have in raising concerns".

During a Commons defence select committee hearing earlier this year, Labour MP Emma Lewell said that between 2021 and 2024 there had been 122 investigations into sexual offences against under 18-year-olds at AFC.

Ms Lewell also said North Yorkshire Council had received 89 safeguarding notifications in the last five years concerning college staff.

The council said the notifications had happened over a 10-year period.

Assistant director for children and families Mel Hutchinson said: "The welfare and safety of young people remains our highest priority. A significant proportion of these notifications were not substantiated following investigation. We continue to work closely with the MoD and AFC to ensure all safeguarding concerns are handled appropriately."

Open letter calls for 'generational shift' in veteran support

Presenter Lorraine Kelly CBE, actor Ross Kemp and former head of the British Army Lord Richard Dannatt are among the high-profile names who have signed Help for Heroes' open letter calling on Prime Minister Andy Burnham to lead a generational shift in veteran support.

The letter follows the prime minister's commitment that defence is the first responsibility of government.

It calls on the government to honour the Armed Forces Covenant, a promise that no one would be disadvantaged by their service.

Kelly said: "Our Armed Forces make great sacrifices for our safety and the least we can do to repay that debt is to ensure they don't have to fight for the support they need and deserve to live well after service. I believe we are a nation that values and supports those who have served. This is why I'm proud to back this open letter."

Dannatt said: "Those who wear the Armed Forces uniform accept unlimited liability in service of their country. We should be equally committed to ensuring they have the support they need when that service ends."

The letter forms part of the charity's campaign, The People's Promise to Veterans, which aims to build a country where every veteran can live well after service. Help for Heroes reports a 30% rise in demand for its services over the past year.

The charity's boss, James Needham, wrote: "Many veterans are still denied the quality healthcare, financial security and support they need and deserve. As prime minister, you can lead a generational shift in how government supports our Armed Forces Community – those currently serving, our veterans and their families."

Members of the public, employers, MPs and the Armed Forces community are being invited to sign the open letter before it is presented to 10 Downing Street next month.

Battle of Trafalgar flag saved for the nation

A Royal Navy flag flown at the Battle of Trafalgar has been saved for the nation and will be displayed in a museum.

The Union Flag was flown from HMS Royal Sovereign, flagship of Vice-Admiral Cuthbert Collingwood, second-in-command to Lord Nelson at Trafalgar in 1805.

It had been due to be sold out of the country but an export bar was put in place due to its historical significance, and a fundraising drive was started to save it.

The flag will now be put on view in Newcastle, the city where Collingwood was born and where many of his men were raised.

Susan Collingwood-Cameron, great, great, great niece of Collingwood, said: "This flag is said to have been made by sailors on board the ship, many of whom came from Tyneside and were affectionately referred to by him as his 'Tars of the Tyne.'

"It will be a tribute to them and the important role they played in one of our greatest moments in history.

"There may well be descendants of their families still living in the area."

The flag was hand-stitched in wool bunting and it remains in good condition, although battle scars can be seen on it.

The Battle of Trafalgar was a defining moment in the Napoleonic Wars, and there are just three remaining flags from it.

North East Museums' Keith Merrin with flag.

Woman accused of Covent Garden stabbings appears in court

A woman accused of a stabbing spree in London's Covent Garden is said to have knifed four men in the back with scissors, a court has heard. Stella Gollovena, 47, is accused of attacking Patrick De Barr, Thomas Harding, Adrian Lovett and Mantas Jankus during an incident on Wednesday lunchtime. She has been charged with four counts of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and with possessing an offensive weapon. Gollovena, of no fixed address, faced the charges in a hearing at Highbury Corner Magistrates' Court yesterday. Deputy Chief Magistrate Tan Ikram remanded Gollovena in custody until the next hearing at Snaresbrook Crown Court on September 3. The four men – aged 34, 39, 42 and 56 – have since been discharged from hospital as their injuries were not deemed life-threatening or life-changing.

Andrew was 'chased by stalker' near his home

BY TRISTAN KIRK

Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor says he came face-to-face with an alleged stalker wearing a balaclava who chased after him in a confrontation close to his Sandringham home, a court has heard.

Alex Jenkinson, 39, is charged with using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour towards the former Duke of York in Norfolk on May 6.

Suffolk Police are also applying for a civil Stalking Protection Order against Jenkinson.

At Westminster Magistrates' Court yesterday, Deputy Chief Magistrate Tan Ikram read out parts of Andrew's witness statement which is due to form the centrepiece of both legal proceedings. The royal said that when he was out for a walk with his dogs on the estate, he spotted a car which he assumed to belong to press photographers, and then he and his security detail "drove past the car".

He said a man "turned and faced me – he was wearing a balaclava face covering".

Andrew provided a description of the "out-of-place" man, and added in his statement: "I then saw a loose dog running towards him.

"Then he realised who I was and began to sprint after my vehicle."

Yesterday's court hearing took place in Jenkinson's absence after he arrived with his dog, Indie, and was blocked from entering the building by court officials. As Jenkinson stood on the pavement outside, his lawyer, Claire Howell, told Judge Ikram: "He has had to bring his dog with him, so he wasn't allowed inside the court.

"He is homeless and currently in accommodation in a Travelodge.

"He is not allowed to leave the dog there. It provides him with support. He suffers from ADHD."

She conceded that she has no documents to prove Jenkinson's medical condition, or his need for a support animal, and the judge told her: "I'm not prepared to have a dog in the courtroom simply because he is homeless and he happens to keep a dog.

"I'm not saying he is not telling the truth but there's nothing to corroborate it."

He added: "We accommodate people who have ADHD and have support animals.

"I would want something more than he is homeless and happens to have a dog."

The judge heard and agreed an application for the police bid for a Stalking Protection Order to be adjourned, and decided the hearing could take place in Jenkinson's absence.

Ms Howell told the court Jenkinson has now been found temporary accommodation where he can leave the dog for future hearings.

Jenkinson is accused of causing the former Duke of York to "fear unlawful violence" during the confrontation in Wolferton, close to his Marsh Farm property.

Jenkinson was detained under the Mental Health Act for around a month afterwards. He has pleaded guilty to failing to provide a specimen of blood while in custody on May 6.

But he denies the public order offence against Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor and has also pleaded not guilty to a further charge of using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour with intent to cause fear or provoke unlawful violence against another man on May 5.

Andrew is due to give evidence by videolink at the criminal trial, which has been set for December 21.

Jenkinson, who comes from Stowmarket, Suffolk, is also fighting the making of the Stalking Protection Order.

Reality TV star jailed for online postings about ex

Disgraced former reality TV star Stephen Bear has been jailed for 16 months for breaching a restraining order by posting on social media about his ex-girlfriend Georgia Harrison.

The Celebrity Big Brother's 2016 winner flouted the five-year restraining order, imposed in 2023, in a campaign of vitriol in which he made degrading comments about Ms Harrison and encouraged others to comment about her, according to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).

The five-year order was imposed in 2023 after he was found guilty of disclosing private sexual photographs and films of Ms Harrison with intent to cause distress and voyeurism.

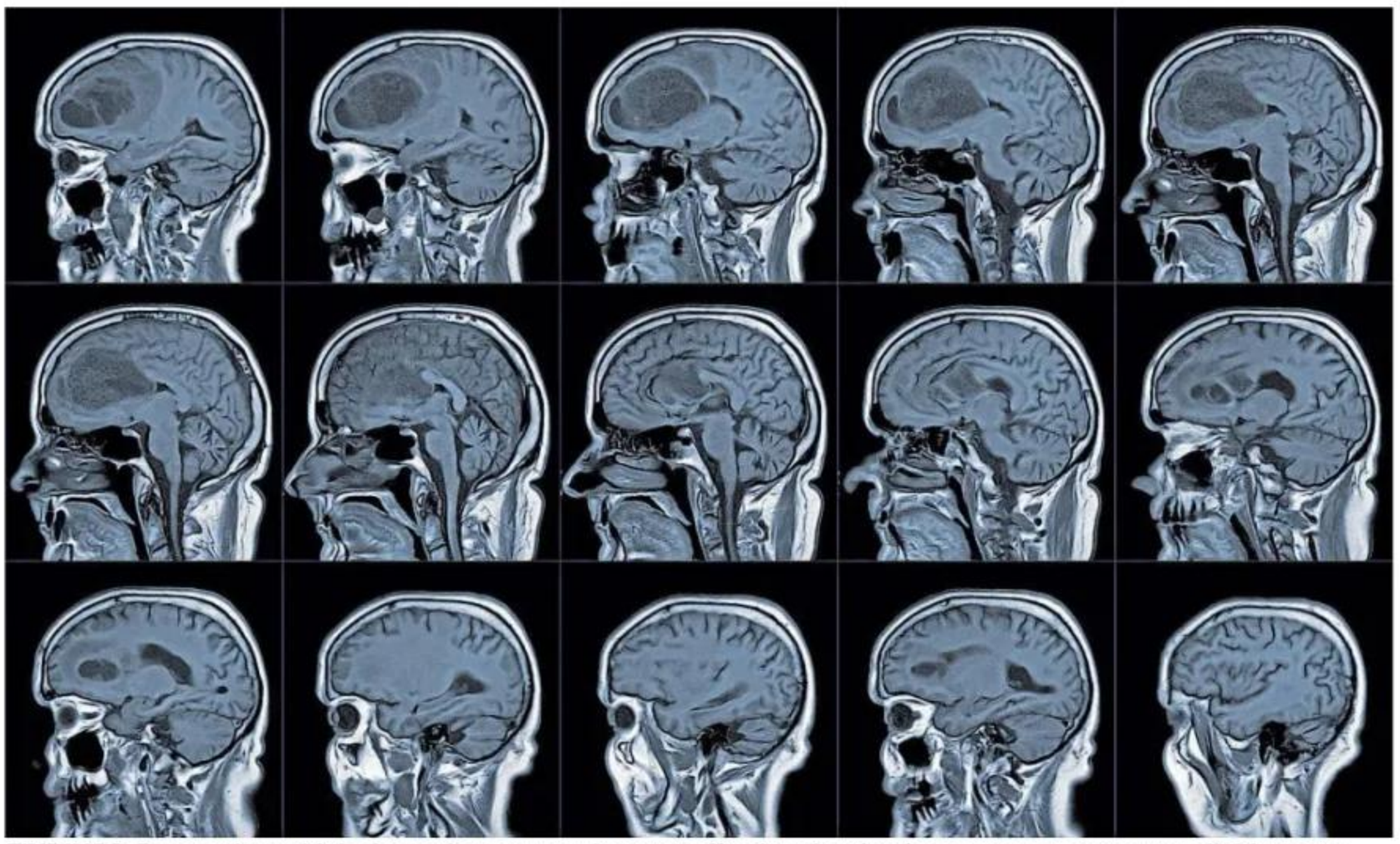
It came after the 36-year-old, of Walthamstow, east London, was placed on the register and handed a jail sentence in 2023 for sharing a private sex tape of Ms Harrison, on his OnlyFans website.

The CPS said that between March and July 2025, Bear repeatedly posted about Ms Harrison on Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, X and YouTube, despite a restraining order which banned him from doing so.

After the sentence was announced on Wednesday, Ms Harrison said she was grateful to Essex Police because they "took me seriously when so many women in my position are overlooked".

Stephen Bear.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026



FINDINGS: Researchers think chemotherapy may be most effective shortly after surgery to remove a glioblastoma.

Research reveals fresh 'window' to treat brain cancer

BY ELLA PICKOVER

Scientists have found a window of opportunity to attack aggressive brain cancer with chemotherapy.

Instead of waiting for a few weeks after surgery to start chemotherapy, early research suggests that the treatment could be most impactful in the minutes and days after an operation to remove a glioblastoma.

The new study shows that the blood-brain barrier – a tightly packed layer of cells which protect the brain from harm but can also limit drug concentrations to the brain – is "disrupted" during two windows during the immediate and early periods after surgery.

Experts said that while the findings are still in their early stages, they could potentially reshape care for glioblastoma patients.

They said that the delay of four to six weeks between surgery and the start of chemotherapy and radiotherapy has "largely been regarded as a necessity to ensure complete recovery from surgery".

But the researchers said that in the future, the findings could help medics "exploit" these windows of opportunity to attack the cancerous cells left behind after surgery.

It comes after Scottish swimmer Archie Goodburn made an emotional plea to Prime Minister Andy Burnham to establish a national brain cancer lead.

The 25-year-old, who was diagnosed with brain cancer when he was 22, described how trials around the world are not being seen in the UK which is "unfair and unjust".

Speaking on BBC Breakfast, Goodburn was in tears as he said: "Please invest and make the difference.

"I'm on my knees begging for not just my own life but those who are affected and the families all around the country.

"This has to change, it has been going on for too long and the suffering is unbearable."

The prime minister responded to the emotional plea by inviting Goodburn to meet him.

The authors of the new study, published in the journal Science Translational Medicine, said that the effects of glioblastoma removal surgery on the blood-brain barrier, and the impacts of chemotherapy, "have not been systematically studied" in the past.

Researchers from Manchester University performed mice studies to mimic the clinical procedure of removing a tumour and used a formulation which does not typically enter the brain unless there is disruption to the blood-brain barrier.

The research team found that the surgery disrupts the blood brain barrier "revealing the opportunity for early treatment within specific temporal windows". The windows are 15 minutes and 48 to 72 hours post surgery.

They said that by "exploiting" these time frames, they "effectively suppressed tumour recurrence".

Dr Thomas Kisby, co-lead on the study at Manchester University, said: "For the first time, we've shown that glioblastoma surgery briefly exposes a vulnerability we can exploit.

"If treatment is timed during specific windows we identified, it is able to halt the disease significantly before it regrows.

"We suggest that the hours and days immediately after surgery may hold the key to stopping glioblastoma from returning.

"It also raises the possibility that other established medicines could be redeployed in smarter, more strategic ways."

'Traumatic injury risk higher with e-scooters than with motorbikes'

People who ride e-scooters face a higher risk of injuries to the brain and internal organs than cyclists or motorcyclists, analysis has suggested.

More than one in 10 e-scooter riders were children, who were also more likely to be injured, the study found.

Helmet use was also "rare" and women were more likely to suffer severe injuries, researchers said.

E-scooters are available to rent as part of government trial schemes in cities such as Liverpool, Bristol, Birmingham and a number of London boroughs.

It is illegal to use privately owned e-scooters in public.

A team of experts led by surgeon David Bodansky analysed data for 15,247 patients on the National Major Trauma Registry, which included 580 e-scooter riders, more than 7,000 motorcyclists and 7,740 cyclists.

Each had moderate to severe injuries after incidents in 18 cities in England and Wales from 2020 to 2022. Some 87.9% of e-scooter riders were over 18.

Compared with motorcyclists, those who used e-scooters faced a 3.5 times higher risk of a traumatic brain injury, a 1.5 times higher risk of injuring their internal organs, and a 3.2 times higher risk of injuries to the arteries or veins.

The risk was 1.7, 1.4 and 1.7 times higher respectively when compared with cyclists.

Researchers said the findings, published in the journal Scientific Reports, "emphasise the need for policies that address the sociodemographic determinants of e-scooter safety to prevent avoidable harm".

Magic mushroom drug 'could ease depression'

A single dose of the natural psychedelic found in magic mushrooms could significantly ease depression that is resistant to other treatments, according to a new study.

Symptoms went into remission in four in 10 patients taking part in the first publicly-funded trial of the therapy, which took place in the community rather than a hospital.

One person described the treatment as "very emotional" at times, but said it helped them to understand their depression more.

The trial, led by King's College London and published in Nature Medicine, included 60 people with depression that had not responded to two prior treatments at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

Half were given 25mg of psilocybin, while the other half were given a placebo.

More than four in 10 people (43%) taking psilocybin met the threshold for treatment response after three weeks, rising to 56% after six weeks.

This is compared to 3% of patients in the placebo group.

Meanwhile, psilocybin helped 40% of patients enter remission, meaning their symptoms of depression fell low enough to no longer meet clinical criteria, within three weeks, compared to 3% in the placebo group.

Zelensky: Ukraine strikes more oil facilities in Russia

ATTACKED: Firefighters work to extinguish a blaze at a large food warehouse in Kyiv yesterday following a strike.

BY ILLIA NOVIKOV

Ukraine hit more oil facilities deep inside Russia in overnight attacks, President Volodymyr Zelensky said yesterday, as Kyiv kept up its campaign to undermine Moscow's wartime economy and embarrass the Kremlin.

The repeated strikes have caused fuel shortages and rattled Russians.

Ukrainians, meanwhile, are enduring regular barrages that Kyiv's depleted air defences are struggling to counter amid Moscow's four-year-old full-scale invasion.

The Kyiv region observed an official day of mourning yesterday after a Russian missile and drone blitz killed 17 people the previous day, prompting an increasingly urgent scramble by Ukraine and its partner countries to find new air defence supplies.

In the first six months of this year, 1,396 civilians were killed and 7,978 injured in Ukraine, the United Nations office in Kyiv said on Wednesday.

Missiles caused deaths and damage in Kyiv this week.

Mr Zelensky said he met with senior officials on how to accelerate the development of Ukraine's own ballistic weaponry.

"Developing one's own ballistic capabilities and creating a new anti-ballistic system is a task that only a tiny minority of countries worldwide have managed to accomplish," he said in a social media post. "Ukraine has this capability."

Mr Zelensky said he expects the programme to produce results this year and next after it overcomes "key challenges", including procuring critical components, technological co-operation with partner countries, and choosing where to build the armaments.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian forces hit a refinery in Russia's Bashkortostan region, more than 800 miles from the front line, as well as a refinery in the Yaroslavl region, almost 400 miles from the border, Mr Zelensky said on social media.

Yaroslavl governor Mikhail Yevrayev said in a Telegram post that drone debris hit the facility's oil reservoirs, sparking a fire.

Three private houses also caught fire, and several residential buildings were damaged, he added.

Ukrainian forces hit two Russian military patrol boats in the Black Sea, Mr Zelensky said, along with vessels belonging to Moscow's so-called shadow fleet, which Russia uses to evade Western restrictions on its oil exports.

Drone and glide bomb attacks across Ukraine overnight killed at least three civilians and wounded 22 others, authorities said yesterday.

A student at a peace rally in Mumbai, India.

Weapons uncertainty as Hiroshima marks anniversary of bomb

Hiroshima has marked the 81st anniversary of the US atomic bombing of the western Japanese city, with its mayor criticising major powers for waging wars and urging them to stop justifying the possession of nuclear weapons as a method of deterrence.

"Downplaying the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and accepting the use of force to pursue one's own prosperity risk cycles of violent retaliation that could result in another Hiroshima or Nagasaki," Mayor Kazumi Matsui said.

Too many political leaders consider nuclear deterrence a realistic approach and legitimise violence, which "simply pushes a world without nuclear weapons further into the distance," Mr Matsui said at a ceremony in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

About 50,000 people, including representatives from 120 countries and regions including the US and Iran, were to attend the ceremony.

A minute of silence was held while a peace bell rang out at 8.15am, the time when a US B-29 dropped the bomb on the city.

Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi said she will take "a realistic approach" toward achieving a world where nuclear weapons are never used.

There is speculation her hawkish government, which supports the idea of nuclear deterrence, may ask for a review of the ban on nuclear weapons being brought into Japan.

The bombing of Hiroshima on August 6 1945 killed 140,000 people. A second bombing three days later on Nagasaki killed 70,000. Japan surrendered on August 15, ending the Second World War.

Iran claims deal on strait at 'final stage'

Iran said on Wednesday it is in the "final stage" of drafting an agreement with Oman over the Strait of Hormuz, following US President Donald Trump saying a deal could be announced this week.

The deal could reopen the critical waterway, but is likely to be contingent on the US lifting its blockade on Iran's ports.

The Trump administration has previously ruled out any deal that would cement Iran's grip over the strait.

Iran has insisted on some control over the strait, saying it will not go back to being an open international waterway, as it was before the war.

Closure of the strait, through which a fifth of the world's traded oil and natural gas once passed, has driven up the price of fuel and goods, roiling the global economy.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said a joint statement with Oman will be issued "if certain parties do not obstruct this process".

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

TV star backs call for cancer therapy

BY CARLA FERIC

TV presenter Peter Duncan has called for a "life-changing" and minimally-invasive prostate cancer treatment to be accessible across the UK.

The 72-year-old actor and broadcaster, known for hosting Blue Peter in the 1980s, revealed his prostate cancer diagnosis in 2019 and subsequently underwent focal therapy.

The treatment destroys only the cancerous part of the prostate, and studies have proven it successfully delivers long-term outcomes for patients with minimal side effects.

A recent report by researchers at Imperial College London and Imperial College Healthcare Trust also found that focal therapy is as effective as radiotherapy and prostatectomy surgery.

Prostate Cancer UK has encouraged the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (Nice) to review the latest evidence about the treatment as it emphasises the importance of making it widely available.

Duncan has backed the charity as he reflected on how focal therapy was a "complete success" for him.

He said: "I was originally offered a radical prostatectomy which would have removed the whole prostate, but I was lucky enough to be treated with focal therapy which was better for me and a less invasive option.

"It was a complete success, and I've only experienced very minor after-effects, allowing me to continue with my life as before.

"But as it stands, many men aren't given the same chance I was, and that needs to change.

"That's why I'm backing Prostate Cancer UK's calls for Nice to review new evidence and make sure thousands of men across the UK can access these life-changing treatments."

Duncan is among many famous faces to have accessed focal therapy such as TV presenter Jeremy Clarkson and former prime minister Lord David Cameron.

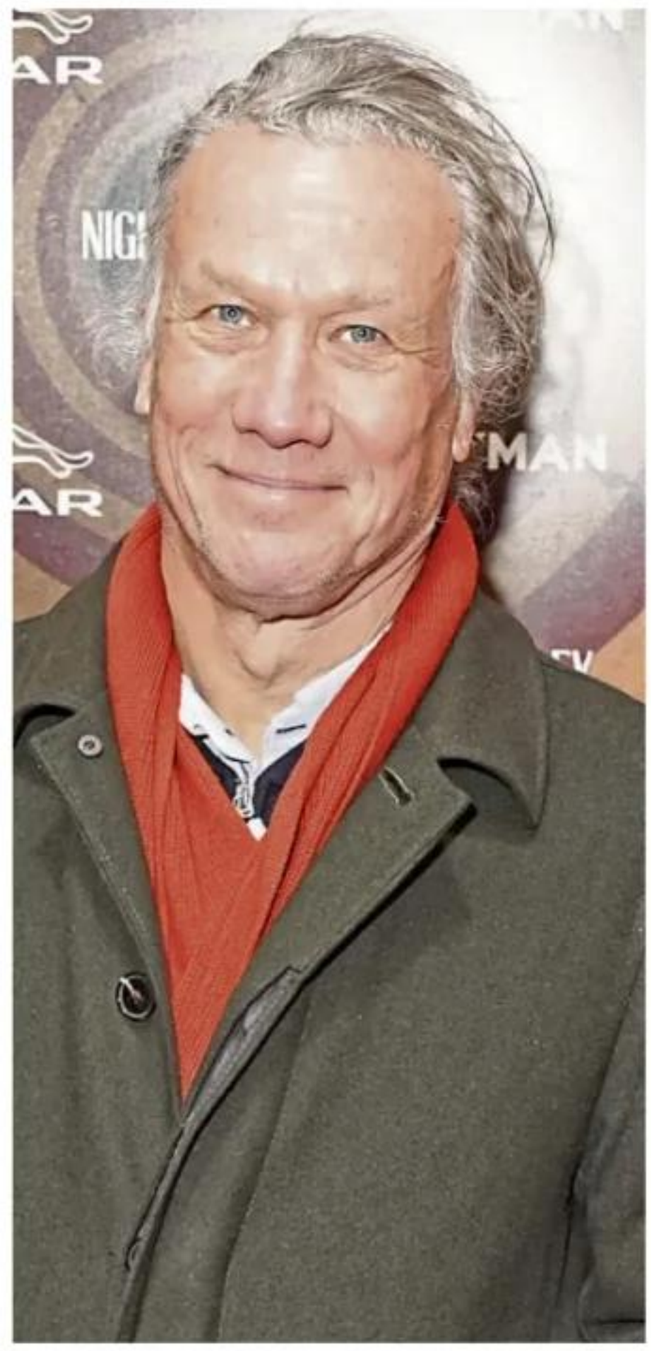
Focal therapy leads to a five-fold lower risk of side effects such as incontinence, erectile dysfunction and rectal problems compared to traditional radiotherapy or surgery.

Amy Rylance, director of health services, equity and improvement at Prostate Cancer UK, said: "Without a timeline from Nice, we simply don't know how long men will have to wait for approval on the NHS.

"The sad truth is that until then thousands of men will have to deal with life-changing side effects simply because of their postcode.

"That's completely unacceptable, which is why we're calling for an urgent review of these treatments."

Eric Power, interim director of the centre for guidelines at Nice, said: "Our prostate cancer guideline is being updated, and our independent committee will review new evidence as part of this planned update."



PLEA: Ex-Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan.

Knox show 'hurts our family'

BY CASEY COOPER-FISKE

The sister of Meredith Kercher has said a show by Amanda Knox, who was convicted of her murder and later cleared, "normalises and trivialises violence against women".

British foreign exchange student Miss Kercher was killed in Perugia, in 2007, and her American roommate Ms Knox was arrested and later convicted of murder and sexual assault in 2009 alongside her then-boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito.

The couple maintained their innocence and, after years of legal battles, were acquitted of sexual assault and murder by Italy's highest court in 2015.

Ms Knox will now perform the show, named Cartwheel, which references a story that claimed she did cartwheels in the police station after her friend's death, at this year's Edinburgh Fringe.

Stephanie Kercher told BBC Breakfast: "It's left a massive void in our lives, and Amanda is naturally free to continue with her life as she wishes, but I think the problem with this particular project is that it is comedy.

"And whilst I appreciate comedy is there to push the boundaries... it very much normalises and trivialises violence against women and Meredith in particular.

"I think in this case it's a position where it's not a generic topic, it's targeting an individual traumatic case and an individual person and family, and I feel very strongly that Meredith wouldn't agree with that.

"And obviously, I have read certain comments that she's made that Meredith would have found it funny, and Meredith absolutely wouldn't find these topics of any comedy value."

In an interview with The Telegraph earlier this month, Ms Knox said that she believed Miss Kercher would "appreciate the show because it grapples with what it means to be a young woman, and it is honest", adding that she thought her late roommate would have found it "funny".

A petition to cancel the show has also been launched, to which Ms Knox said "neither the author of this petition nor anyone who signed it has seen Cartwheel" and added that the petition "contains many false assumptions and completely mischaracterises the show" in a statement posted to Instagram.

It added: "Cartwheel honours Meredith Kercher's memory and calls out the violence that was done to her and to me.

"A petition to cancel a show no-one has seen, on the grounds of false accusations intended to shame and vilify a wronged woman into silence, is not an argument against Cartwheel.

"It's a fairly precise description of what Cartwheel is about and why it deserves to exist."

Ms Knox has previously said she would be willing to speak to Miss Kercher's family about the show, which she claims does not "joke about Meredith's death".

GRADUATION: Meredith Kercher, right, with her sister Stephanie.

ASG COMMERCIAL
Our business is selling your business.

Find the perfect commercial property for your business needs

FOR SALE

Kyle
Reraig Caravan Site

Guide Price £675,000 (Freehold)

- Established 40-pitch caravan and camping park on Loch Alsh
- Prime A87 location for Skye, West Highlands and NC500
- Modern facilities with strong seasonal occupancy and online bookings
- Remotely managed with approved owner's lodge development potential

FOR SALE

Grantown on Spey
Dunallan House

Guide Price £570,000 (Freehold)

- Established 7-bedroom guesthouse
- Elegant Victorian villa featuring original period details
- Seven stylish en-suite bedrooms, 3 bed owner's accommodation
- Prime Cairngorms location, strong repeat trade, excellent reviews
- Biomass solar heating, turnkey business

FOR SALE

Inverness
Atholdene Guest House

Guide Price £895,000 (Freehold)

- Established profitable guesthouse Inverness
- Nine en-suite bedrooms plus owner's accommodation
- Excellent reviews, loyal repeat guests
- Walkable city-centre location, Highlands gateway
- Turnkey lifestyle business with growth potential

FOR SALE

Isle of Harris
Ardview House, Bothy Bar & Restaurant and Residential Unit

Offers Over £645,000 (Freehold)

- Thriving bar/restaurant with 4-bed house & 2–3 bed unit
- Strong local and tourist trade
- Prime location
- Flexible accommodation options
- Excellent reviews, expansion potential

1 Cromwell Road
Inverness
IV1 1SX

T : 01463 714757
W : asgcommercial.co.uk
E : media@asgcommercial.co.uk

Experts in Commercial Property Sales
Hospitality
Retail
Investment
Offices
Corporate
Industrial

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

'NO GRAND DISPLAY': Brenda Fricker lived in the historic Liberties area of Dublin and her funeral was held at St Catherine's Church on Meath Street.

Funeral full of laughter for free-spirited Brenda

BY GRÁINNE NÍ AODHA

Oscar-winning Irish actress Brenda Fricker has been remembered as a mischievous and kind "free spirit" who was happiest in the historic area of Dublin where she lived.

Locals applauded as her wicker coffin arrived at St Catherine's Church on Meath Street, adorned with a green cloth bearing a gold harp and a coat of arms of Dublin.

Fricker, 81, died in Our Lady's Hospice in Dublin's Harold's Cross on July 16 after a period of ill health.

Mourners heard that she wanted her funeral to be "no fuss" with "no grand display" and full of laughter.

Her friend Liz Duffy, described as "her rock", thanked the local shops in the Liberties that Fricker would go to regularly with her dog, Juno.

These included her hairdresser Jane, who came up to the hospital to do Fricker's hair when she was ill, Sean from Foley's pharmacy, who also helped during her illness, her fish shop where she would order "a huge piece of salmon", Fran the jeweller, and Rachel at Fuscos chipper where "Juno got all her treats".

Mourners applauded as the funeral procession passed.

"Please, please be happy for her, because that's what she wanted – smiles and laughter and funny stories."

Jailhouse Rock was played as Fricker's coffin was carried out of the church at the end of the service, prompting some people who had gathered outside to dance and sing along.

Irish actor Brendan Gleeson, filmmaker Jim Sheridan, RTÉ director general Kevin Bakhurst, broadcasters Brendan O'Connor and Ray D'Arcy, and costume designer Joan Bergin were among those who attended the funeral service in the Liberties neighbourhood.

Mourners heard that while Fricker won a best supporting actress Oscar for her performance as Bridget Fagan Brown in 1989's My Left Foot, the trophy was not what mattered to her.

Monsignor Eoin Thynne said she played the role of Mrs Brown "with such truth, such heart, such tenderness that we all felt we knew her".

"But in truth, Brenda was like that all along. You see, she didn't have to act kindness; she lived kindness.

Brenda won an Oscar.

"Her generosity was legendary. She gave freely, gladly, often lightly, expecting nothing in return."

"She gave freely and brought dignity and truth to every role and friendship. Ireland is prouder because of her."

He said there was not "an ounce of airs or graces about her", that she was a "free spirit" who was "full of mischief" and "marched to the beat of her own wonderful, joyful drum".

"We all know the golden rule of Brenda's day: never call or text before 12 noon. She liked her mornings, and who could blame her?

"And I'm sure we can almost hear Brenda saying to Peter 'For goodness' sake, don't text or call me before 12.'"

He thanked her neighbours and friends from the Liberties "where she could be herself and was happiest when she was among her own".

Filmmaker Virginia Gilbert said Fricker had said she was "ferocious in her friendships" and had been a friend "by her side" for 15 years.

"Brenda lived a life full to the brim, full of love, laughter, stories, kindness, and mischief, and she was very clear about what she wanted today: no tears, no sadness, no fuss."

Alex Hughes sudden death inquest

The son of Manchester United and Wales footballer Mark Hughes died from "sudden adult death syndrome", an inquest has found.

Alex Hughes, 38, was Grimsby Town's player recruitment lead, having previously held roles at clubs including Manchester City, Fulham, Blackburn and 1860 Munich.

Mr Hughes was found collapsed at home in his bedroom in Macclesfield, Cheshire, on June 19 by his sons, an inquest at Cheshire Coroner's Court heard.

Despite resuscitation efforts, the 38-year-old's death was confirmed by paramedics. Following a post-mortem examination, his death was attributed to "sudden adult death syndrome", also known as Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome.

SADS is diagnosed when the cause of death cannot be explained in a post-mortem examination because the structure of the heart appears normal.

It affects around 500 people in the UK every year and the British Heart Foundation said SADS "usually happens when a dangerously abnormal heart rhythm goes untreated and leads to a cardiac arrest". The foundation added that inherited heart conditions are "often the cause of SADS if the person who has it doesn't know they do".

Former striker Mark Hughes said he and his family were "heartbroken" following the sudden death.

Alex Hughes.

Much-loved city pub and a regular spot for Dons fans

BY KIRSTIE WATERSTON

One of Aberdeen's traditional pubs, The Malt Mill was well-known for its live music nights over the decades, until it closed down 10 years ago.

Ultimately it was the volume of noise and complaints about music at Downstairs, underneath the pub, that led to the venue closing in 2016.

The closure has been considered a real loss to the city's music scene ever since, as it was famous for its cask ales and music on seven nights a week.

For more than 140 years, a public house has stood at 82 Holburn Street, but back then it was known as the Great Western Bar.

In 1887 when Aberdeen took part in the Royal Year of the Jubilee to mark Queen Victoria's 50 years on the throne, the pub was name checked in its contribution.

The whole of the Granite City was decked out "beyond expectation" and Holburn Street was no exception.

On June 20 1887, The Press and Journal reported: "The Great Western Bar is prettily embellished with flags and banners, and above the doorway is exhibited a handsome coat of arms."

A few years later in 1894, the pub was used as a meeting place for enrolling volunteer recruits into the "C" Company, Deeside Highlanders.

While nobody will remember the Great Western Bar during the Victorian era, some readers may just about remember it from the 1960s when it changed to The Malt Mill.

Publican George Clark took over in 1976, having previously run the Pitfour Arms Hotel in Mintlaw.

He retired from the licensed trade in 1985 and sold the pub to a consortium of Aberdeen businessmen.

Although, with his son owning the Bankhead Inn and the Bridge Bar in Aberdeen, and his daughter behind the bar at the Crichie Inn in Stuartfield, George still kept his hand.

Bill Watt took the reins at The Malt Mill in 1990 with his parents who ran the Continental fish and chip shop next door.

He spruced up the premises, bringing out character and adding "a new atmosphere" to the lounge downstairs.

Fast forward a good few years, and the new owners of The Malt Mill ruffled a few feathers.

In January 2004, it was announced that the pub, which was regularly frequented by Dons fans, had been acquired by none other than the owners of Dundee Football Club.

Brothers Jimmy and Peter Marr bought the bar and lounge as their latest addition to their pub portfolio. But the following year, the pub changed hands again when Jimmy Marr sold a group of his pubs and bars to The Globe Pub Company, owned by property entrepreneur Robert Tchenguiz.

Eighteen of Mr Marr's 30 venues were sold, including The Malt Mill, with Scottish and Newcastle Pub Enterprises appointed by Globe to run the outlets.

In the decade that followed, the Holburn Street watering hole became known for debuting new music acts in the city, as well as old favourites.

But its success became its downfall as neighbouring properties complained about nuisance noise to the council, forcing the venue to close in 2016.

Following sound-proofing issues, Downstairs on Holburn Street shut at the end of July and upstairs, sister bar The Malt Mill close permanently on August 19.

Owners Gavin Basset and David McGhie said words could not describe how hard it had been to make the decision.

But after sitting empty, there was renewed hope in 2024 when Peterhead's Brew Toon Brewery were given permission to bring the venue back to life.

As yet the plans haven't progressed, but it may not be the last we've heard from The Malt Mill.

1976: Dons idol Joe Harper was invited to The Malt Mill bar to empty a sweetie jar full of cash donated by customers. Joe spilled out £75.66, which went towards buying a chair for a child with a disability at Pitfodels School, near Cults.

2004: Pub pundit William Millar was a familiar face.

1986: The regulars of The Malt Mill in Holburn Street raise their glasses as the Dons bus passes.

2015: Malt Mill co-owners Gav Basset and David McGhie the year before they were forced to close the venue.

2010: Sean Stout celebrated his 21st birthday with friends and family at The Malt Mill.

Wicker Man sequel director Justin Hardy, 61

FILM-MAKER: Justin Hardy, right, and his brother Dominic Hardy.

Director Justin Hardy, who had just completed a follow-up to his father Robin's cult classic film The Wicker Man, has died aged 61.

The film-maker's family said Hardy died on Friday night after suffering a heart attack.

In a statement to the Press Association, they said: "Our family is devastated to share that Justin Hardy passed away last night.

"He was so full of life right to the end, and incredibly energised to be working towards premiering his latest film this month.

"We are all so proud of him and heartbroken he won't be with us at his premiere. He was a man of family, of boundless creativity, and of devotion for everyone he held dear."

Robin Hardy was best known for the 1973 folk horror classic The Wicker Man, starring Edward Woodward, Christopher Lee and Britt Ekland, which sees a police office sent to the fictional Scottish island of Summerisle to investigate a missing girl.

Speaking to PA, Dominic Hardy said his brother Justin would be remembered as someone "with an incredible appetite for life".

After reading history at Oxford University, Hardy went on to study film at Bournemouth and then scriptwriting at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Throughout his career he directed series and films including The Bill, Princes In The Tower, Trafalgar Battle Surgeon, The Relief Of Belsen, Spanish Flu: The Forgotten Fallen, and London's Burning.

He was also nominated for an Emmy and a Bafta, and in recent years had been teaching screenwriting at University College London.

"He really became a film-maker in his own right, one who always brought the productions in under-budget, who got extraordinary performances, and who had a wonderful sense of narrative," Dominic said.

In 2024 the brothers released the documentary Children Of The Wicker Man, which detailed their complicated legacy with their father's magnum opus, which saw him sacrifice his family life for a film that bombed at the box office before becoming a cult classic.

Before his death aged 86 in 2016, Robin Hardy spoke publicly about his desire to complete The Wicker Man trilogy after he released The Wicker Tree in 2011.

After he died, the brothers were contacted and asked about plans for the third film, which Dominic said they then saw as the "impetus to close the chapter on the films".

"After Children Of The Wicker Man, Justin was also going in a new direction and looking forward to writing more scripts," Dominic said.

They then decided to wrap up their father's film trilogy. Released this month, Wrath Of The Gods was inspired by a concept discovered in a recently unearthed script written by Robin and stars Game of Thrones' Francis Magee and Norwegian actress Christiane Schaldemose.

Justin Hardy is survived by his wife Larissa, and children Sam, Ludo, Nico and Summer.

Wrath Of The Gods will premiere at FrightFest in Leicester Square on August 28.

Death Notices

CAMPBELL
(Ardgay)

Peacefully in Raigmore Hospital on Sunday, August 2, 2026, Mary Campbell (née Matheson), Invercharron, Ardgay, aged 89, beloved wife of the late Alexander, a dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral service will be held in Migdale Free Church, Bonar Bridge on Thursday, August 13, at 12 noon. Thereafter to Creich Cemetery. All friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, but donations if so desired may be given at the service for RNLI or send to Alasdair Rhind, Funeral Directors, Sutherland House, Bank Street, Tain or by bacs to RBS S/c/ 83-27-35, a/c no 00254580, ref T/L Mary.

Missed a family notice?
www.pressandjournal.co.uk/familyannouncements

DAVIDSON
(nee Blackwell)
(Aberdeen)

Peacefully at ARI on Saturday, August 1, 2026, after a short period of ill health, Anne, aged 84 years. Formerly of Hall Russell and Hydro Electric. Beloved wife of the late Eric, loving sister to Patricia, Philip and the late Ian, much loved and loving mother of Simon and Gregor and devoted grandmother of Rebecca. Funeral service on Friday, August 14, at 2.30pm at Aberdeen Crematorium, East Chapel, to which all family and friends are warmly invited. Family flowers only please.

FORBES
(Muir of Ord)

Alistair (Ali) passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, at Ross Memorial Hospital, Dingwall, on Thursday, July 31, 2026, aged 87 years. Cherished husband of the late Lesley, adored dad of Louise, Linda and Gary, father-in-law of James, Lynn and the late Sandy, treasured 'Gaga' to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and a special friend to Ann. Funeral service will be held at East Church, Muir of Ord on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, commencing at 1pm, thereafter to Urray New Cemetery. All family and friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only, but a donation, if desired, can be made at the service for Ross Memorial Hospital Rehabilitation Ward. Enquiries to Mairi Urquhart & Son, tel: 01463 870891.

FOX
(Ellon)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Carole Fox, beloved wife of Charles and cherished mum to Emma and Richard. A dear sister to Malcolm and a great friend to many in the local community through her role as Reverend at St Mary-on-the-Rock. Funeral service to take place at St Mary-on-the-Rock, Ellon, at 11am on Friday, August 14, 2026, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only, please, but donations in lieu, if so desired, may be given at the door in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. Please wear a touch of colour. Forever in our hearts.

Missed a family notice?
www.pressandjournal.co.uk/familyannouncements

JAPPY
(Muir of Ord)

Peacefully, in the care of Urray House, Muir of Ord, on Monday, July 20, 2026, Christina (Christine) MacGregor Jappy (nee Angus), aged 87 years, Muir of Ord. She is survived by her two daughters, Carmen Sawers and Helen Biernacka. Christine was one of a kind and will be much missed. We invite you to join us to celebrate Christine's life on Friday, August 21, 2026, at 11am, in The National Hotel, Dingwall; thereafter interment private in Dellefure Natural Burial Ground. No flowers, please. Donations, in memory of Christine, towards the Highland Hospice and Urray House Residents Comfort Fund may be given at the door. Livestream link available from www.chisholmfunerals.co.uk/funeral-notices.

They want to know
Tell relatives and friends about an engagement, marriage or birth
Call 01224 691212
9am-5pm, Monday to Friday

KEITH
(Halkirk)

Peacefully at home, Sinclair Street, Halkirk on Friday, July 31, 2026, Jessie aged 94 years. Former manageress of the Ulbster Arms Hotel, Halkirk. A dearly loved sister, aunt, great-aunt, great-great-aunt and a friend to many. Funeral service within Halkirk Church of Scotland on Wednesday, August 12, service commencing at 2pm, thereafter to Halkirk Cemetery. All family and friends are respectfully invited. Donations if desired may be given at the service in aid of Marie Curie and The Children's Hospice. The church service will be livestreamed.

LEGGE
(Fyvie)

Peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Friday, July 31, 2026, at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, John (Johnny) aged 81 years. Devoted husband to the late Evelyn, dearly loved dad to Gary, father-in-law to Wendy. Treasured grandfather, stepfather, brother and good friend to many. Funeral service to be held at Cloverly Woods of Rest, Fyvie, Aberdeenshire, AB53 8QR on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 11am, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. No flowers please but donations can be given, if so desired, in aid of Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland at the chapel exit. All enquires C/O Wm Gilchrist Funeralcare, 20 Ellon Road, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, AB23 8BX, 01224 703395. Johnny will be very sadly missed.

OUR OPENING TIMES
9am - 5pm
Monday - Friday
Call 01224 691212
Email yourads @dcthomson .co.uk

MITCHELL
(Braemar)

Suddenly but peacefully at home, on Sunday, August 2, 2026, Robert (Robbie) Mitchell, aged 85 years. Beloved husband of the late Bunty, much-loved father of Rory, Katrina and Anna; cherished Grandpa and Great-Grandpa "Dumps" to Caitlin, Kerina, Ben, Poppy and Rosie and devoted companion to his dogs, Jinty and Mia. Robbie lived a full and active life and was known for his sense of adventure, his storytelling, his humour, his craftsmanship, and his remarkable knack for turning his hand to almost anything. Together with his beloved Bunty, he built a wonderful life at Mar Lodge and in Braemar. He will be dearly missed by family, friends and all who had the privilege of knowing him. The family would like to express their sincere thanks to the carers and volunteers of Braemar Care for their kindness, support and friendship. Funeral service and burial at Crathie Kirk on Monday, August 17, at 11.30am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, in aid of Braemar Care.

MURRAY
(Parkhill)

Peacefully, at A.R.I., on Friday, July 24, 2026, George (Geordie), aged 81 years. Beloved brother of David, Jean and the late Isobel, a dear uncle and friend to many. Funeral service at Baldarroch Crematorium, Crathes, on Friday, August 14, at 10am, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

PARK
(Strichen)

Very suddenly at his home, on Tuesday, August 14, 2026, Ewen, aged 71 years. Only son of the late James (Ewen) and Catherine Park (formerly of Dencallie Farm), much loved brother to Fiona Mary and the late Kathleen, a dear nephew, cousin and good friend to all who knew him. Funeral arrangements to follow.

Today's Text

FOR we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen; what can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever.—2 Corinthians 4, 18.

Special Messages

Remembering

FEMISTER
W. Stanley
7/7/1935 - 6/8/2025

Thinking of you, Uncle Stanley, always loved and remembered.

From his nieces Marlene, Pat, Michelene and Sandra and our families.

Special Messages

Remembering

JAMES ALEXANDER RUSSELL

10.07.1997 - 07.08.2020

So Special, So Loved, So Missed and Never Ever Forgotten.

Our love as always, Dad and Anna.

Missed a family notice?
www.pressandjournal.co.uk/familyannouncements

THIS IS SCOTLAND WITH

THE Scots MAGAZINE

NEW PODCAST *OUT NOW*

WITH ALLY HEATHER AND HEBRIDEAN BAKER, COINNEACH MacLEOD

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Reader's picture of the day

WILDLIFE: Simon Packman from Inverness managed to capture the full attention of a roe deer in north Kessock.

Amateur photographers are invited to submit pictures for inclusion. Please send high-quality prints to: Scottish Life, The Press and Journal, 1 Marischal Square, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BL. We are sorry that we are unable to return them. You can email your photographs to: pictures@pressandjournal.co.uk

Letters to the editor

Send to – **Letters, The Press and Journal, 1 Marischal Square, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BL** or email **letters@pressandjournal.co.uk.**
All letters are subject to editing and must include your full address and daytime telephone number for verification. Thank you.

The union vital for research funding

Sir, – George Orwell said "By nationalism I mean the habit of assuming that human beings can be classified like insects and that whole blocks of millions can be classified as good or bad".

It is clear that WA Ross (P&J letters July 31) puts me into the latter category.

But I object to him classifying me as a right wing insect. I am not, and sad to say, in the light of the recent Holyrood election and the successes of Reform, consider that he should rethink his opinion that Scotland would never vote for a right wing government.

As for the shackles of Westminster, money from it supported the Glaswegian, June Almeida, when she was discovering human coronaviruses, and funded the virus research institute in Glasgow where I worked on smallpox, vaccines, and antiviral drugs.

A prime motive for me when campaigning against the break up of the UK was ensuring that such funding will keep on coming to Scotland.

Hugh Pennington, Aberdeen.

Better countryside protection needed

Sir, – I can't help thinking that if the recent fires had happened on Arthur's Seat, the Pentlands or Campsie Fells the Scottish Government would have acted more quickly.

Hopefully last week's events have persuaded them to re-introduce former countryside fire and flood protection land management and drainage practices.

Allan Sutherland, Stonehaven.

Visitor levy is just a tax on businesses

Sir, – According to a report in this newspaper, Aberdeen City Council is floating a £900,000 plan to hire experts to "showcase" the city – funded by a punitive 7% visitor levy on overnight stays from next April.

Let's be clear: this is NOT a tourist tax. It is a business tax. Edinburgh's levy is 5%, capped at five nights, designed to capture genuine tourists and cool an overheated market. Aberdeen's version is nearly 50% higher and runs indefinitely. That makes it a straightforward tax on local accommodation businesses, not visitors.

Aberdeen's hotel, B&B and self-catering sector is already on its knees after years of high costs, weak demand and increased regulation. Yet the council believes grabbing an extra 7% of their earnings will somehow help the very sector it is taxing into deeper trouble. That is beyond stupid.

The authority expects the levy to raise around £7 million a year, yet plans to spend just £900,000 on this marketing scheme. So what happens to the other £6.1m? While the law requires the money to be spent on facilities and services substantially used by visitors, the council still seizes this extra revenue and then spends a fraction of it trying to mitigate the damage the levy itself will cause by deterring visitors, contractors and key workers.

The irony is rich: the free global publicity that Trump's golf courses already bring the region far outweighs a measly £900,000 spent by some advertising agency. Taxes that suppress demand cannot be sold as a tool to attract the business they destroy.

Edinburgh's levy has already proved "shambolic". Guests are cancelling bookings after just one week. Aberdeen is about to repeat the same expensive mistake but on a much more damaging scale.

Ian Lakin, Milltimber, Aberdeen.

UK's net zero drive has had no impact

Sir, – The ocean is a "sink" for carbon fed by two "pumps" and the sink is being "blocked" by climate change.

The oceans cover 70% of the Earth's surface. The seawater is warming up, becoming more acidic and losing oxygen. Climate change is impacting both land and sea.

High temperatures cause coral bleaching. Fish and other species are migrating toward cooler waters affecting local ecosystems and biodiversity.

Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere dissolves in seawater making it acidic – the "solubility carbon pump". Increased acidity kills marine life and disrupts food chains.

Marine organisms like plankton convert CO_2 into organic matter – the "biological carbon pump", crucial to removing atmospheric CO_2. But warmer water dissolves less oxygen resulting in fewer marine creatures. So less CO_2 is being removed from the air and converted into compound form.

Overall result? Less CO_2 is removed from the atmosphere and its concentration increases apace; the "greenhouse" gets hotter still.

Recent catastrophic environmental events have shown that the UK's drive to "net zero" has had essentially no effect on climate change. Only concerted action by the big carbon-polluters like China and the USA can mitigate global heating in the long term and eventually "unblock the sink".

In the UK, "green" zealots have promoted a "net zero" agenda to no tangible effect globally at considerable cost. Martyrs to their expensive good intentions, deluded in their expectations and occasionally dangerous and destructive in their fanaticism.

Bill Maxwell, Keith.

Opinion

Children taught road safety also need to know about sea

Andy Morton

More rescues are being made as beach becomes ever busier

WAVES OF EXCITEMENT: Surfers know about safety – but some children don't know about tides. Below, Rosie Payne.

I had some family in town last weekend, so I did what a lot of Aberdonians do when the sun is out and visitors are here – I took them down the beach.

Aberdeen is one of the few cities in Britain lucky enough to have a proper sandy beach on its doorstep. And despite a few local grumblings, you have to admit we do pretty good beach.

There are the cafes, the food trucks and Codona's, of course. Best of all, there's no better spot in Aberdeen to get a decent cup of coffee.

But while a growing swimming and surf culture has emerged at the beach in recent years, our water safety awareness has not kept pace.

I have recently been speaking to people who spend much of their lives on Aberdeen beach and one thing kept coming up: the surprising number of times trained beach users and bystanders find themselves going into the water to help people in trouble.

Local surf instructor Rosie Payne told me she went to the aid of about four people last summer alone.

Campbell Scott, who runs Scot Surf from the Fittie end, estimates he has been involved in about 29 rescues and recoveries over the past three years.

When I asked what might have happened had they not been there, both gave the same worrying answer: they simply did not know.

But while opinions differed on whether official lifeguards were the answer, everyone I spoke to agreed on one thing: when it comes to water safety, many of us lack even basic knowledge.

To Rosie, who grew up in New Zealand, this was puzzling. When she was young, the people around her understood the water and knew where the dangers were.

Here, by contrast, "some kids have no idea that tides exist", she told me.

I understood her frustration.

I lived for a time in Sydney and, although I was nowhere near well-off enough to live beside the sea – if you stood on the wall of our front porch and craned your neck, you could just make out the top of the Harbour Bridge – beach awareness was part of everyday life.

The obvious comeback to that is that the North Sea lacks the inviting appeal of the South Pacific.

True.

But Iceland is hardly blessed with tropical seas either.

Yet swimming has long been treated there as a basic part of a child's education and pupils are expected to develop recognised swimming skills before they leave compulsory schooling.

Here, education has historically been patchier.

Graham Dutton, a lead programme co-ordinator with Sport Aberdeen, told me every Primary 4 pupil in the city receives 10 weeks of swimming lessons, with water safety built into the programme.

In February, the Scottish Government announced £2 million for 2026-27 to begin offering universal primary-school swimming, with an emphasis on swimming and water-safety skills.

Those initiatives are welcome.

But learning to swim in a pool is not quite the same as understanding the open sea.

For example, here's a quick test for you.

Would you know what to do if you saw a swimmer in trouble? Who would you call? And could you help without putting yourself in danger?

What if you got into trouble yourself? Would you know how the tide might change the risks at the beach? What would you do if you got caught in a rip? Do you know what a rip is?

Many people, myself included before I started looking into this, would answer no to all of those questions.

In the meantime, the sea off Aberdeen beach is becoming busier. We have surfers, and paddleboarders. We have a fleet of beach saunas serving people who fancy a dip in the North Sea.

That should be welcomed. Aberdeen should make more of its beach, as it is doing with the beach regeneration project.

But if we are going to encourage people towards the water, we should also make sure they understand the risks.

Over the past decade, at least five people have died in the water at Aberdeen beach.

We teach children road safety because roads are dangerous. In a coastal city, water safety should be treated the same way.

■ **Andy Morton is health writer at The Press and Journal**

> Learning to swim in a pool isn't the same as understanding open sea

TABLE-TOPPERS: Bon-Accord bowling team members, who led the North section of the Scottish Counties championship, pictured in June 1980.

Past times

Do you have a nostalgic picture you would like to share with P&J readers? Please send copies, not originals, to: Past Times, The Press and Journal, 1 Marischal Square, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BL. Remember to include your name and address if you want us to return your picture, email pictures@pressandjournal.co.uk

Who said it?

"Unacceptable and criminal behaviour has absolutely no place in our armed forces and these reports are extremely distressing and serious. People join the Army in the hope of having a fantastic career and any such reports are unacceptable and go completely against everything the Army stands for" **- An Army spokesperson on reports of rape and sexual abuse against female recruits at a military training college for teenagers.**

"Bosses of companies employing illegal migrants will be sent to prison, and their companies fined 10% of their global revenues" **- Reform UK home affairs spokesman Zia Yusuf.**

"Reform are a woke party, and I know a lot of people don't understand, the word woke is used to mean many things, a lot of people assume it's a left-wing thing. But when I talk about woke, I talk about people who, it's all grievance, it's victim narratives, people are doing this to us, oppressor narratives, this is the oppressor class" **- Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch rules out a deal with Nigel Farage's party.**

"Whilst I appreciate comedy is there to push the boundaries... it very much normalises and trivialises violence against women and Meredith in particular" **- Stephanie Kercher, the sister of Meredith Kercher, on a show that will be performed at the Edinburgh Fringe by Amanda Knox, who was convicted of Meredith's murder and later cleared.**

"Well, many people have different interpretations of that, we can split hairs" **- Restore Britain leader Rupert Lowe declines to say, when asked by the BBC's Nick Robinson, whether he thinks the King is a "white Briton" .**

Sir Chris Hoy celebrates at London 2012.

On this day

1711: Ascot became "Royal" with the attendance of Queen Anne at the horse races.
1840: Parliament passed an Act prohibiting the employment of climbing boys as chimney sweeps.
1876: Mata Hari (Margaretha Zelle), exotic spy who passed secrets to Germany during the First World War, was born. The French arrested her in 1917 and she was killed by firing squad.
1925: British Summer Time became permanent between the Sunday following the last Saturday in April and the Sunday following the first Saturday in October with the passing of the Summer Time Act.
1926: The first British Motor Racing Grand Prix was held at the Brooklands track, over a distance of 110 laps and 287 miles.
1957: Oliver Hardy, the comedian who, with his partner Stan Laurel, formed one of the most successful double acts of all time, died.
1958: The Litter Act came into force in Britain.
1981: The Washington Star published its final edition after 128 years of publication.
2012: Sir Chris Hoy made Olympic history when he won his sixth gold medal in the frenzied atmosphere of the velodrome in London.
ON THIS DAY LAST YEAR: Homelessness minister Rushanara Ali resigned from the government following reports she hiked rent on a property she owns by hundreds of pounds just weeks after the previous tenants' contract ended.

Dozens of whisky jobs at risk as drinks giant to slash costs by £750m

BY KELLY WILSON

Dozens of jobs could be lost at some of Moray's best-known whisky distilleries under a global restructuring programme being rolled out by drinks giant Diageo.

The company has placed 172 workers across its Highlands and Islands operations at risk of redundancy, with up to 38 jobs expected to be lost.

Union leaders have accused Diageo of refusing to consider alternatives to compulsory redundancies.

The latest criticism comes as Diageo chief executive Sir Dave Lewis today unveiled plans to cut £750 million ($1 billion) in costs over the next two years in a bid to revive its fortunes.

He admitted the "significant" restructuring would have a "very significant impact" on employees, although he said it would make the business more competitive.

Among the sites affected are Cardhu, Cragganmore and Dufftown distilleries.

Its whisky brands include Johnnie Walker, Bell's, Buchanan's and J&B.

Around £631m ($850m) of savings is set to come from operations, with around £111m ($150m) to be saved from its supply chain.

Diageo, which counts Johnnie Walker, Smirnoff and Guinness among its brands, said the restructuring costs linked to the shake-up would cost the company around £0.89bn ($1.2bn).

The company also reported a 3% fall in annual net sales to £14.5bn ($19.6bn) for the year to June.

Shares rose about 6% following the results announcement.

Mr Lewis said: "This new strategy, executing with a new, more agile, competitive and cost-effective operating model, gives us confidence that we can return Diageo to a business consistently creating value for shareholders."

STRATEGY: Sir Dave Lewis is spearheading a restructuring process aimed at cutting £750 million of costs in two years.

Jobs at Cardhu Distillery in Speyside could be at risk.

Meanwhile GMB Scotland claims a four-week consultation has now ended without agreement after the company rejected proposals aimed at reducing compulsory redundancies, including voluntary redundancy schemes and job-sharing.

The union has formally rejected the consultation process, describing it as a "box-ticking exercise" and warning the impact of the cuts will be felt across rural communities.

Lesley-Anne Macaskill, GMB Scotland organiser in the Highlands and Islands, said: "The absolute refusal to engage with our members' concerns is a morally bankrupt betrayal of a skilled, experienced and committed workforce.

"We detailed a number of measures routinely used across the industry to reduce redundancies and ease the uncertainty of workers but every other option was rejected out of hand.

"Our members understand the company must respond to changing demand but that can be done with respect, fairness and genuine consultation.

"Instead, it has refused to listen or alter its plans in any way."

Diageo refused to comment on the redundancy process at the Highland distilleries when contacted.

Lesley-Anne Macaskill.

Building company expects to hit homes target

Housebuilder Persimmon has said it expects to deliver home completions at the "upper end" of targets, despite a challenging property market.

Boss Dean Finch said that "affordability constraints and build cost pressures" are continuing to drag on the industry.

The company said profits are on track with guidance and it expects to complete around 12,500 homes in 2026.

It came as Persimmon revealed that new home completions were up 13% to 5,189 for the first half of the year.

Meanwhile, group revenues lifted by 15% to £1.73 billion for the six months to June 30, compared with a year earlier.

It also revealed that pre-tax profits were 15% higher at £168 million.

Mr Finch said recent trading represented a "strong" performance by the company over the half-year.

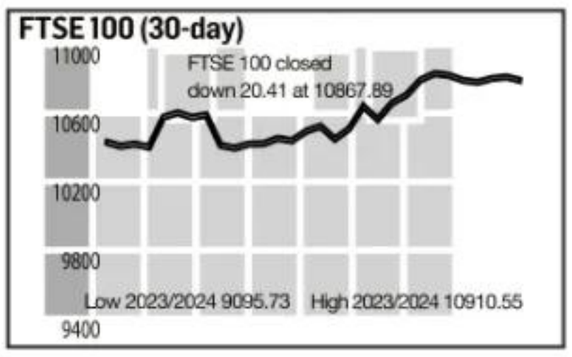
FTSE 250 outshines FTSE 100

The FTSE 100 fell yesterday despite well-received figures from WPP and Diageo.

The index closed down 20.41 points, 0.2%, at 10,867.89. The FTSE 250 ended up 62.79 points, 0.3%, at 24,695.42, a record close, while the AIM All-Share closed up 5.35 points, 0.7%, at 787.13.

In London, fresh survey data showed the UK's construction sector remained under pressure in July, although the pace of contraction eased.

The pound traded at $1.3454 yesterday afternoon, down from $1.3466 on Wednesday. Against the euro, sterling rose to 1.1675 euro from 1.1663.



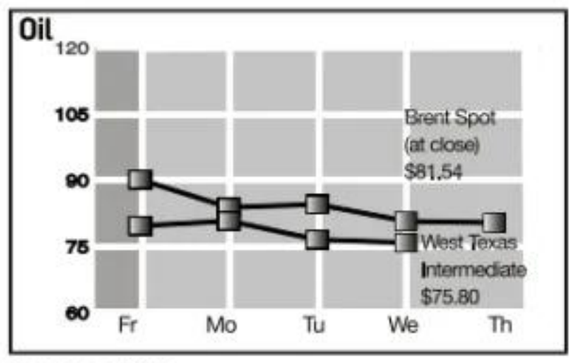
Currencies

Euro/Pound	**0.8564**
Pound/Hong Kong Dollar	10.5530
Pound/Euro	1.1677
Pound/Dollar	1.3452
Pound/Danish Kroner	8.7294
Pound/Norwegian Kroner	12.8539
Pound/Yen	213.1545
Pound/Canadian Dollar	1.8876
Pound/Swedish Kroner	12.8002
Pound/Australian Dollars	1.9140
Pound/Chinese Remnimbi	9.0838
Pound/New Zealand Dollar	2.2934
Pound/New Taiwan Dollar	43.4712
Pound/New Turkish Lira	64.0223

Summary

FTSE-100	10867.89	dn 20.41	(- 0.19%)
FTSE-250 Index	24695.42	up 62.79	(+ 0.25%)
FTSE Allshare	5856.14	dn 7.92	(- 0.14%)
Nikkei	65683.26	dn 617.18	(- 0.93%)

STOCK	PRICE	VAR	VAR(%)	HIGH	LOW	YLD
AEROSPACE & DEFENCE			**3670.52**			
Avon	1916	+28	+1.48	2145	1520	1.00
BAE Systems	2200	+44	+2.04	2331	1609½	1.80
Rolls-Royce	1533⅝	-37	-2.36	1570⅝	1026	0.70
BANKS			**2874.13**			
Banco Santander	1100	+4	+0.36	1108	687	1.50
Barclays	520	-7½	-1.42	530⅝	357¼	2.20
HSBC Hldgs	1521¼	+10⅝	+0.70	1597⅝	938⅛	3.70
Lloyds Banking Gp	114¼	-2⅜	-2.05	117⅝	78½	3.40
NatWest Group	711¼	-2	-0.28	722¼	505¼	4.90
Standard Chartered	2195	-17	-0.77	2248	1305½	2.30
BEVERAGES			**23529.40**			
Diageo	1732½	+91½	+5.58	2121	1362½	3.80
CHEMICALS			**13935.45**			
Croda International	3281	-8	-0.24	3322	2439	3.40
Elementis	186⅜	+5⅛	+2.98	187¼	142⅛	1.80
Johnson Matthey	2152	-2	-0.09	2388	1765	3.60
CONSTRUCTION & MATS			**7243.09**			
Barratt Redrow	319¼	+4⅛	+1.46	409⅛	241¼	5.40
Costain Gp	215½	+1½	+0.70	218	125⅛	2.00
Persimmon	1155½	+32½	+2.89	1543½	998⅛	5.30
Taylor Wimpey	84	+1⅛	+1.40	116½	74⅛	5.00
ELECTRONIC & ELECTRICAL			**9779.71**			
Morgan Advanced	245	+5	+2.08	252¼	187⅛	5.10
EQUITY INVESTMENT			**12653.67**			
Abdn Div Inc & Gr Tst	12¼			49⅛	12¼	-
Alliance Witan	1383	-3	-0.22	1386	1188	2.10
Caledonia Invest	388 xd	+1½	+0.39	391½	312	2.00
Dunedin I&G	314	-5	-1.57	319	280	6.30
Edin Invst	856	+2	+0.23	860	760	3.70
F&C Investment Trust	343⅛	-⅛	-0.12	351¼	82¼	1.20
Hend Sm Cos	988	+12	+1.23	988	774	3.00
JP Morgan China	277 xd	+1	+0.36	312	252	4.90
Merchants	680 xd	+2	+0.29	690½	537	4.40
Murray Intl Trust	369½ xd	+½	+0.14	370	289½	3.40
Scot American Inv	565	-1	-0.18	566	487	2.90
Scottish Mortgage	1364½	-15	-1.09	1545	1028½	0.30
FIXED LINE TELECOMS			**1732.58**			
BT	200	-1¼	-0.60	239½	2	4.10
FOOD & DRUG RETAILERS			**4209.17**			
Greggs	1925	-8	-0.41	2032	1418	3.60
Sainsbury (J)	354¼	-1¼	-0.48	360	295	3.80
Tesco	475¼	-5	-1.04	501¼	406⅛	3.00
FOOD PRODUCERS			**7496.82**			
Tate & Lyle	554	+½	+0.09	569	329⅛	3.60
Unilever	4709	-65	-1.36	5472	4078	3.40
GENERAL FINANCIAL			**11651.32**			
3i Gp	2871	-51	-1.75	4459	2082	2.90
Close Bros	432⅛	-3⅛	-0.78	550½	345	-
STOCK	**PRICE**	**VAR**	**VAR(%)**	**HIGH**	**LOW**	**YLD**



Commodities

		(troy oz)
Gold	$4269.18	up $61.48
Krands	$4299.38	up $116.17
Silver	4590.00p	up 38.60p
		(per tonne)
Nickel	$16915.00	dn $210.00
Zinc	$3737.00	up $7.00
Copper	$14167.50	dn $27.50
Lead	$1845.00	dn $2.00
Aluminium	$3200.00	unchanged
Sugar (Tate & Lyle)		
Export Trade	$477.70	dn $0.30
Natural Gas		
Bacton	133.84p	up 1.84p

STOCK	PRICE	VAR	VAR(%)	HIGH	LOW	YLD
London Stk Exch	8750	+122	+1.41	9992	7170	1.80
Man Group	312	-4	-1.27	316	154¼	4.00
Schroders	584½	-5	-0.85	589½	361¼	3.70
Vanquis	81	-¼	-0.37	130¼	77⅛	-
GENERAL INDUSTRIALS			**6598.70**			
Smiths Gp	2677	-22	-0.82	2746	2118	1.70
GENERAL RETAILERS			**2658.32**			
Inchcape	826½	-17	-2.02	890	640½	4.00
Kingfisher	325⅛	+2¼	+0.71	370½	243¼	3.80
Marks & Spenc	406⅛	-3	-0.73	413⅛	308⅛	1.00
Next	15715	+55	+0.35	15800	11575	1.70
Topps Tiles	35½	-⅛	-1.66	50	31½	8.60
WH Smith	442¼	+2¼	+0.64	1355½	383¼	-
HEALTH CARE SERVICES			**6068.40**			
Smith & Neph	1098	-10½	-0.95	1435	1073½	2.70
HOUSEHOLD GOODS			**17956.56**			
Reckitt Benck	5248	-94	-1.76	6681¼	4443	4.10
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING			**14905.57**			
Bodycote	914	-9	-0.98	930¼	601	2.50
IMI	3130	+46	+1.49	3130	2226	1.10
Spirax Group	7375	+30	+0.41	7960	6060	2.30
Weir Gp	2696	+8	+0.30	3546	2274	1.60
INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION			**3592.80**			
Fisher (James)	480	+4	+0.84	550	326	-
LIFE INSURANCE			**8091.30**			
Aberdeen Group	251⅛	-2¼	-1.10	261	182	5.70
Aviva	710¼	+9	+1.28	715	591⅛	5.60
Legal & General	312	+6¼	+2.23	312	233⅛	7.20
Prudential	1027	+2	+0.20	1220	916	1.90
St James Place	1117½	-18	-1.59	1553	1053½	1.60
MEDIA			**8348.12**			
Future	317⅛	+1	+0.32	781½	274¼	5.40
Informa	905¼	-6⅛	-0.70	993⅛	739¼	2.50
ITV	73¼	+1¼	+1.74	85¼	67⅛	6.90
Pearson	1229	-10	-0.81	1326	891⅛	2.10
Reach	42⅛ xd	+⅛	+0.36	73⅛	41⅛	14.00
RELX	2603	-112	-4.13	3625	2013	2.50
WPP	395	+87⅛	+28.62	403¼	224⅛	4.90
MINING			**23368.34**			
Anglo American	3976	-45	-1.12	4225	2123	0.70
BHP Group	3303	+2	+0.06	3480	1926	3.10
Ecora Royalties	149¼	+1¼	+0.81	152⅛	69⅛	1.00
Glencore	566	-7¼	-1.27	615	284¼	2.20
Rio Tinto	7457	-54	-0.72	8308	4448½	4.60
MOBILE TELECOMS			**3057.94**			
STOCK	**PRICE**	**VAR**	**VAR(%)**	**HIGH**	**LOW**	**YLD**

Regional interest performance

SECURITY	PRICE		DAY	HIGH	LOW	YLD
Aberdeen Group	251⅛	-2¼	-1.10	261	182	5.70
ABF	2117	+12	+0.57	2337	18	3.00
Alliance Witan	1383	-3	-0.22	1386	1188	2.10
Balfour Beatty	878½	-1	-0.11	899	553	1.60
Barr (AG)	610	-5	-0.81	710	598	3.00
Braemar	228 xd			260	207	3.10
Diageo	1732½	+91½	+5.58	2121	1362½	3.80
Fevara	137½	+5½	+4.17	151	119½	1.80
FirstGroup	182⅛ xd	-2¼	-1.19	231¼	158	3.90
GSK	1936½	+21	+1.10	2268	1395½	3.70
Hays	62⅛	+2¼	+3.66	64⅛	29⅛	0.70
Iomart	12½	+⅛	+0.81	27¼	11⅛	-
Land Securities	713	-9	-1.25	722	529	5.70
NatWest Group	711¼	-2	-0.28	722¼	505¼	4.90
Scot Am	565	-1	-0.18	566	487	2.90
SSE	2376 xd	+34	+1.45	2757½	1612	2.90
STV Group	106½	+½	+0.47	129	95⅛	-
Truetide	3⅛			3¼	1⅛	-
Weir Gp	2696	+8	+0.30	3546	2274	1.60

UK Companies earnings data supplied by Hemscott tel: 020 7847 0017 Prices in pence unless otherwise stated.

STOCK	PRICE	VAR	VAR(%)	HIGH	LOW	YLD
Vodafone Gp	119¼	+4⅛	+4.28	123¼	84⅛	3.50
NONLIFE INSURANCE			**3164.23**			
Hiscox	1811	+20	+1.12	1899	1273	2.20
PHARMA & BIOTECHNOLOGY			**15316.34**			
AstraZeneca	11850	-186	-1.55	15542	10922	2.00
Genus	2302	+42	+1.86	3170	1966	1.50
GSK	1936½	+21	+1.10	2268	1395½	3.70
REAL ESTATE			**2782.82**			
British Land	441¼	-6¼	-1.38	448¼	321¼	5.20
Hammerson	375¼	-2⅛	-0.69	385⅛	267¼	4.80
Land Securities	713	-9	-1.25	722	529	5.70
SEGRO	962	-9¼	-1.01	997⅛	604⅛	3.20
Town Centre	130	-3	-2.26	140	107½	3.80
SOFTWARE & COMP SERVS			**1949.21**			
Computacenter	4884	+72	+1.50	4930½	2242	1.60
The Sage Group	1027½	+14½	+1.43	1175	783⅛	2.20
SUPPORT SERVICES			**10189.94**			
Babcock Intl Grp	1190	+4½	+0.38	1502	921	0.60
Bunzl	2832	+8	+0.28	2832	1989	2.60
Experian	2830	-21	-0.74	3982	2375	1.80
Hays	62⅛	+2¼	+3.66	64⅛	29⅛	0.70
Johnson Sv Gp	149¼	-1⅛	-0.73	170⅛	125⅛	3.20
Macfarlane Gp	75⅛	+⅛	+1.21	99	60	4.90
Rentokil	363½	-5⅛	-1.52	506¼	344¼	2.60
RS Group	746½	+5	+0.67	749¼	541½	3.10
Serco	260	+17⅛	+7.17	324¼	216⅛	1.90
SIG	8½	-¼	-2.31	12¼	7½	-
Smiths News	73	+1	+1.39	77⅛	54	7.70
Travis Perkins	663	-3½	-0.53	714	507½	1.70
TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE			**1920.18**			
Pebble Beach Sys	22½			28	14	-
TOBACCO			**29233.92**			
Br Am Tob	4376 xd	-2	-0.05	4962	3733	5.60
Imperial Brands	2759	+12	+0.44	3341	2668	6.10
TRAVEL & LEISURE			**9296.23**			
Compass Gp	32⅛	-¼	-2.11	2637	27⅛	2.10
easyJet	670	+18¼	+2.79	680	339¼	2.00
Intercontl Htls	158¼	-1½	-0.94	10585	128⅛	1.10
Intl Cons Airl	446	+1½	+0.34	488	342¼	1.50
Marston's	52			68⅛	36⅛	-
Mitch & Butlers	283	+½	+0.18	301	228	-
Rank	100⅛	+⅛	+0.40	149⅛	88⅛	3.00
Wetherspoon (JD)	810	-2	-0.25	817	555½	1.50
Whitbread	2528	+7	+0.28	3274	2234	3.80
UTILITIES			**4714.11**			
Centrica	153¼	+2¼	+1.49	218¼	151½	3.70
STOCK	**PRICE**	**VAR**	**VAR(%)**	**HIGH**	**LOW**	**YLD**

STOCK	PRICE	VAR	VAR(%)	HIGH	LOW	YLD
National Grid	1196	+8½	+0.72	1400	1010½	4.10
Pennon Gp	484⅛ xd	+6¼	+1.49	600	446	6.40
Severn Trent	3116	+34	+1.10	3280	327	4.10
Utd Utils	1428	+11	+0.78	1457	914¼	3.80
AIM			**787.13**			**▲5.35**
Avingtrans	722			722	440	0.70
Borders&SthPetr	11	+¼	+1.84	14	8½	-
Celtic	213			256	167½	-
Mothercare	¼			3⅛	⅛	-
MS International	1485	+15	+1.02	1780	1125	1.80
Nichols	1040	-25	-2.35	1255	892	3.70
Rua Life Sciences	24			25½	10½	-
Young & Co	915	-12	-1.29	940	714	2.60
OIL/ENERGY SERVICES						
Afentra	62	+1¼	+2.99	86⅛	37¼	-
Borders&Sthrn Petr	11	+¼	+1.84	14	8½	-
BP	519¼	+4¼	+0.93	606¼	410½	4.80
BP 8% Pf	141½	-3½	-2.41	154	138	5.50
Centrica	153¼	+2¼	+1.49	218¼	151½	3.70
Energean	725	-3½	-0.48	1026	683½	10.20
EnQuest	22¼	+¼	+1.11	27¼	9¼	3.60
Harbour Energy	243⅛	+11⅛	+4.91	318¼	185⅛	6.80
Hunting	447	+3	+0.68	531	297	2.20
National Grid	1196	+8½	+0.72	1400	1010½	4.10
Parkmead Group	21½			26¼	12¼	-
Plexus	3⅛			8⅛	2¼	-
Premier Oil	243⅛	+11⅛	+4.91	318¼	185⅛	6.80
Rockhopper Explrn	74⅛	-⅛	-0.13	89⅛	66⅛	-
Serica Energy	232	+7	+3.11	294	151¼	7.10
Shell	3315	+34½	+1.05	3583	2562	4.60
Soco Intl	31½			31¼	19	4.20
TotalEngergies	77½	+2¼	+3.68	84⅛	48⅛	4.70
Tullow Oil	14	-¼	-2.10	18	3⅛	-
VP	475½ xd	+14½	+3.15	620	424	8.60
STOCK	**PRICE**	**VAR**	**VAR(%)**	**HIGH**	**LOW**	**YLD**

Connecting you with the right businesses

To advertise, please email: **advertising@dcthomson.co.uk**

The Press and Journal

‘Customers can be misled by omega-3 supplement claims’

RESEARCH: Which? found that some supplements' headline claims of 'high strength' left room for misinterpretation.

BY JOSIE CLARKE

So-called "high strength" claims on omega-3 supplements could see shoppers paying a premium for products that contain "surprisingly low" levels of active ingredients compared to cheaper versions, says a consumer group.

Which? nutritionists assessed 24 omega-3 supplements against the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) guidance that people consume 450mg of EPA and DHA daily.

The watchdog used 1,000mg of EPA and DHA as the benchmark for what an omega-3 product marketed as "high strength" should contain.

But it found several supplements marketed as "high strength" contained less of the active EPA and DHA – the long-chain omega-3 fatty acids with proven health benefits like maintaining blood pressure, and heart function – than the advised daily intake.

Which? found Superdrug, Morrisons and Sainsbury's Omega 3 Fish Oil 1000mg supplements each contained 250mg of EPA and DHA combined despite their "high strength" labels.

Similarly, Holland & Barrett's High Strength Omega 3 Fish Oil 1500mg has just 375mg, far below the 450mg daily advised dose.

Sainsbury's charged 14p per dose for its high strength product containing 250mg of EPA and DHA, double that of nutritionally identical products at Asda and Tesco at 7p per dose which do not claim to be high strength.

Holland & Barrett's 1500mg "high strength" supplement costs 27p per daily dose despite providing just 375mg of EPA and DHA Which? said.

All of the retailers said their labelling complied with the Nutrition and Health claims register.

By contrast, Which? found brands including Nutravita, Weightworld and Zipvit cost less than 20p per dose while delivering at least 1000mg of EPA and DHA.

Which? urged shoppers not to rely solely on large fish oil or 1000mg claims on the front of packaging and instead to check the combined EPA and DHA content on the back of the label.

A Superdrug spokeswoman said: "Our High Strength Omega 3 Fish Oil is classified as a food supplement and is subject to Regulation (EC) No. 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods. The Regulation permits omega-3 claims where the product contains at least 80mg of EPA and DHA combined.

"As this product contains 250mg of combined EPA and DHA, the description 'high strength' is considered appropriate and supported by the product's composition."

Sainsbury's said: "We offer customers a range of supplements and vitamins which are all clearly labelled in line with requirements from the Nutrition and Health claims register."

A Morrisons spokesman said: "Regulation 1924/2006 states a claim that a food is high in omega-3 fatty acids, may only be made where the product contains at least 80mg of the sum of eicosapentaenoic acid and docosahexaenoic acid.

"This product contains 250mg so the wording 'high strength' is authorised."

A Holland & Barrett spokeswoman said: "(High strength) is used to help customers distinguish between different strengths and formulations of omega-3 products in our range.

"The amounts of EPA, DHA and total omega-3 fatty acids are clearly displayed on our packaging and website, enabling customers to compare products and make informed choices."

The hot weather made shopping less attractive.

July heatwave keeps shoppers at home in blow to UK high street

Heatwave conditions continued to bear down on shopper footfall in July, with the high street particularly badly affected, figures suggest.

Total UK footfall was down 2.1% on a year earlier, but an improvement on the 3.4% drop seen in June, according to British Retail Consortium (BRC)-Sensormatic data.

High street footfall was down 3.8% year-on-year in July, up from the June's 6.2% fall.

Shopping centre footfall was also down, by 1.4% year-on-year, although this was up from June's drop of 2.5%.

England recorded the weakest performance of any UK nation with an overall footfall drop of 3%, with London down 5.3%, highlighting the continued challenges facing larger urban centres during periods of extreme heat, Sensormatic said.

BRC chief executive Helen Dickinson said: "The heatwave continued to bear down on retail footfall in July, with high streets worst affected.

"London was hit particularly hard as soaring temperatures made tube and train travel less attractive, with some commuters and shoppers opting to stay home.

"Nonetheless, it was still an improvement on the previous month's figures, when record-breaking sunshine saw footfall fall by an even bigger margin."

Andy Sumpter, from Sensormatic, said six of the first seven months of this year performed worse than the same period last year.

He said: "The exceptionally hot and historically dry weather is likely to have been a significant factor, discouraging shopping trips and particularly impacting high streets."

Bikemaker Raleigh to call in administrators

The company behind Nottinghamshire-based bikemaker Raleigh, which was founded 139 years ago, has filed to appoint administrators.

Accell UK and Ireland, part of Netherlands-based Accell Group, filed a notice of intention to appoint administrators as the wider group kickstarted insolvency proceedings.

The boss of Accell said it was a "deeply sad and frustrating situation" and it had "tirelessly explored" every option for the future of the cycling business.

The company bought Raleigh in 2012 for around $100 million (£74 million), adding to its roster of bike brands throughout Europe including Haibike, Winora and Ghost.

Accell went through a restructuring in February, securing extra funding from shareholders and lenders and reducing debts.

Accell said it had since "explored every possible avenue" but it was not possible to find a solution that means the business can continue operating.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Highland Mare star at

The rain held off for another tremendous day at the 187th Black Isle show where the five-year-old Highland Mare stole the show and took home the supreme champion of champions title at the Muir of Ord showground.

Brought out by Alan Munro, the five-year-old home-bred mare stood out among the champions from all other sections, only on her second outing. Overall judge Rod McKenzie, Muirton, found his supreme in the Highland pony Loandhu Tiger Lily.

Mr McKenzie described his choice of champion, saying: "I came here hoping I would find the one with the wow factor, but all the animals today had the wow factor. But it was the horse that stood out the most. She is a stunning animal for a five-year-old. The way she moved was smooth as silk and she oozed quality."

Competing against was the overall cattle champion won by the Cruickshank family with their April 2025-born champion Clury Aston. On his show debut, he is by Glenrock Matrix and out of Clury Patsy by Larry. He is bound for the February bull sales.

Taking reserve honours in the cattle lines was the Simmental National Show champion, the heifer Lagavaich Rosie. November 2025-born, she is by Saltire Impressive and out of Redhill Iris and took first in her class at Turriff.

In the sheep lines it was the park-type Cheviot Belmaduthy Ella from Jo Gall's Belmaduthy flock, Munlochy that took the inter-breed title. A two-crop ewe by a Broomhill bank Commander and out of a home-bred daughter of Gospelhall Pick Me, she previously took reserve at Turriff and placed in her class at the Royal Highland.

Interbreed sheep judge Robert MacDonald, Grantown-On-Spey, described his choice of supreme, saying: "The Cheviot was a very correct ewe with a lot of presence, she is a great example of the breed and a what makes a good ewe."

Reserve interbreed sheep came from the Ingram family, Logie Durno, Inverurie, with a one-crop Loanhead ewe. Fresh off her inter-breed win at Turriff, she is by the 16,000gns Foxhill Va Va Voom and out of a home-bred show ewe.

BIG IMPRESSION: The Limousin and cattle interbreed champion from W F Cruickshank and Sons.

Results

Aberdeen Angus (Judge: Mr N Massie Jnr, Aboyne). Champion – D Walker, Galcantry, Cawdor with February 2024 born Galcantry Edwina sired by Kilmaluag Lord Black Beauty and out of a home-bred cow Galcantry Edwina N685. Third at the Royal Highland this year and reserve champion at Nairn. Reserve – Hannah Heerema, Balavail House, Kingussie with two-year-old Balavailhouse Lord Hugo two-year-old home-bred bull by Balavailhouse RFK and out of Balavailhouse Lady Heather. Champion at Sutherland, Nairn and Male champion at Fife. Second at Royal Highland.

Beef Shorthorn (Judge: Mr C Clark, Rattray). Champion – G Stephen, Hatton Farm, Dallas with home-bred 16-month-old bull Glendual Warrior by Rasputin Upsall, out of Dunsyre Daisy Gresa 15. Champion at Nairn Show. Reserve – S and M Mackenzie, Auchmore, Muir of Ord with home-bred first calver Auchmore Vienna by Napoleon of Upsall and by home-bred Auchmore Vienna. Shown here as heifer calf. Her calf is the February born Auchmore Yanna by Glenisla Excalibur 803 and out of home-bred Auchmore Vienna.

Charolais (Judge: Mr A Drysdale, Blairgowrie). Champion - A and A Wright, Glenlivet, with home-bred in calf heifer Lagavaich Violet in calf to Stranagone Verynice. Heifer is sired by Thurso Sebastian and out of a home-bred cow. Champion at Turriff Show this year. Reserve - B Duffton, Huntly, with the three-year-old cow Utopia Unique, by Stranagone Reagan, out of Utopia Jacqueline. She was shown with her Thrunton Fairfax-sired bull calf at foot having won multiple championships last year. Breed champion at Fettercairn and reserve at Echt this year and reserve champion at Turiff.

Limousin (Judge: Mr A R Lindsay, Bathgate). Champion – W F Cruickshank and Sons, Clury, Grantown on Spey, with home-bred April 2025 born junior bull Clury Aston by Glenrock Matrix and out of Clury Patsy by Larry. Bound for February sales. Reserve – Steven Mitchell, Bencraig, Aberlour with 14-month-old home-bred heifer Bencraig Abba by stock bull Gallery Stannis and out of home-bred Bencraig Ruth. First in her class at Turriff and New Deer.

Simmental (Judge: Mr T Henderson, Crieff). Champion - A and A Wright, Glenlivet, with home-bred November born heifer Lagavaich Rosie by Saltire impressive and out of Redhill Iris. First in her class at Turriff. Reserve – Delfur Farms, Rothes, with Delfur Nifty an 8-month-old calf Delfur Nifty sired by Islavale Magnum, bought for £28,000 and out of home-bred Delfur Nifty. Won her classes at most of the North shows.

Commercial Cattle (Judge: Mr C MacKay, Castletown). Champion - M and M Robertson, Fodderletter Farms, Tomintoul, with BB, an 18-month-old Limousin cross British Blue cross heifer bred by Balfour Baillie, Orkney, Bought at the Thainstone Spectacular in August, she is sired by Redriver Powerful. Stood champion at Stirling and Echt and Banchory. Reserve - B Duffton, Huntly, with Bumble, a December 2024 born Limousin cross bullock bought from Finn Christie at the Young Farmers' Overwintering competition at Thainstone for £5500 in April. He was bred by Gordon Hendry, Heads of Auchinderran. Reserve champion at Banchory and Stirling.

Highland (Judge: Mr D Dempster, Bridge of Cally). Champion – Leys Castle Farm, Inverness, with three-year-old home-bred Lora 2 Leys, by Dougald 2 of Leys and out of Lora 6 of Mottistone. She was sold by Leys at 8500gns at Oban to German breeder Falco Steinberg but has remained at Leys Castle. Reserve champion at Nairn and stood champion here as a yearling. Reserve – Coul Estate Partnership, Laggan with home-bred 18-month-old Seamus Dubh 1 of Coul by Eilean Dubh of Craigomill and out of Betty Dubh of Craigomill 11. Junior male champion at the Royal Highland, Royal Welsh. Male champion at Yorkshire.

AOB (Judge: Mr A Dysdale, Blairgowrie). Champion – Coul Estate Partnership, Laggan with bought in British Blue Solway View Tate (ET) who was bought last year for 50,000gns at Carlisle sired Boherard Overdose out of Solway View Katie (ET). AOB Champion at Nairn. Reserve – B Duffton, Huntly with four-year-old in calf Brtish Blue cow Harlaw Star bred by Jean MacKay, sired by Henill Wishmaster and out of Woodend Leonna. Champion at Fettercairn.

Rare and Minority Breeds (Judge: Mr C Clark, Rattray). Champion – Alana Clark, Huntly, with the Belted Galloway bull Barwise Ergo, bought for 6000gns at Skipton. Reserve - Alana Clark, Huntly, with belted Galloway heifer, Millenium Pearl, purchased at Dingwall by Staffords Gordon and out of Balcorrach Oyster. She was reserve champion at Banchory and champion at Black isle in 2025.

Clydesdales (Judge: Mr J Anderson, Carmyllie). Champion – D and B Walker, Galcantry with home-bred yearling Galcantry Lola by Thropehill quick flash and out of Willow way Sizeall. Reserve Champion at Kirkpatrick and won class at the National Stallion. Reserve – A Jackson, The Boat Clydesdales, Lanark with three-year-old mare Boat Lady Roberta by Dallars Ollie and out of Westglen rambling rose. Third at the Royal Highland.

Highland Ponies (Judge: Mr J Reid, Insch). Champion – Mr and Mrs A Munro, Tain with home-bred five-year-old Loandhu Tigerlily by Strathmore Cameron and out of Wendy rose of Strathmore. On her second outing. She also took the Champion of Champions title. Reserve – Owned by Clare Molyneux and shown by Heather MacLennan, Levattrich, Grantown-on-Spey, with five-year-old bought in George of Meggernie by Brae of Shanquar and out of Catrina of Meggernie. Champion at Nairn.

Shetland Ponies Standard (Judge: Miss E Warren, Kinross). Champion – Renee Swan and Annabelle Pathybridge, Teanahaun Croft, Conon bridge with home-bred three-year-old filly Stow Lady VI by Combebank Defender and out of Stow Lady Violet. Champion at Nairn and Sutherland show. Reserve – Donna Lochtie, Glenfarg, with 16-year-old home-bred Lady Dionne by Stow Vulcan and out of Hawkdale Dixie. Champion of champions here in 2018. Shown by 9-year-old daughter Olivia.

Shetland Ponies Miniature (Judge: Miss A Irvine, Inverurie). Champion – Fiona Johnston, Muir of Ord with bought in 10-year-old Stallion Milday Master Mason by Tawna Rubus and out of Milday Popstir. Won stallion class at Nairn. Reserve – S Mitchell, Phairstad, Muir of Ord with bought in Hallstock Stud bought privately for 1800gns from Devon. Sired by Kerswell Dolphin and out of Hallstock Selina. Junior champion.

Blackface (Judge: T Muirhead). Champion – R Flett, Blackpark Croft Cottage, Ardersier with a three-crop ewe by a £15,000 Crossflatt sire out of a Gass-bred ewe by a £12,000 Crossflatt. She was champion at Turriff, and also took champion at Grantown last year. Reserve – R Flett with a one-crop home-bred ewe by an £18,000 Allanfauld, out of a home-bred ewe by a £15,000 Crossflatt. Champion at Nairn this year, she was inter-breed sheep here at the show last year.

Bluefaced Leicester (Judge: Hazel Brown, Gorebridge). Champion – M Seed, Home Farm of Auchry, Turriff with the four-shear tup Shrewbridge R11. Purchased at Builth Wells in 2023 for £3000, he took champion here two years ago, also taking champion at the breed's National Show at Turriff that same year. Reserve – M Seed with the home-bred one-crop ewe Auchry IT29. Champion here last year as a gimmer, she is by the champion Shrewbridge R11.

Beltex (Judge: A Morton, Denny). Champion – The Munro Family, Invercharron, Ardgay with the gimmer Invercharron Lovebite, unbeaten this show season, she has placed first at Caithness, Latheron, Sutherland and Nairn. She is by Tiree Hurricane and bred from Invercharron Georgia. Reserve – J Farquharson, Kiltarlity with Glencoe Jackson, a three-shear tup by Buckles Fury and from an Airyolland ewe. This is his first outing.

Charollais (Judge: I Spence, Turriff). Champion and reserve inter-breed sheep – G and B Ingram, Logie Durno, Inverurie with a one-crop Loanhead ewe by the 16,000gns Foxhill Va Va Voom and out of a home-bred show ewe. She took breed champion at the Royal Highland and inter-breed sheep at Turriff this year. Reserve – G and B Ingram with a home-bred gimmer, she has been out at both Turriff and the Royal Highland.

Texel (Judge: B Renwick, Kelso). Champion – W and C Ingram, Logie Durno, Inverurie with the shearling Allanfauld Impeccable. Purchased for 32,000gns from the MacGregors at Lockerbie last September. He is by Brackenridge Fly Half and bred from an Allanfauld Flaming Star daughter. Reserve – S Stewart, Leylodge, Kintore with a gimmer by Clanfield Golden and bred from a ewe by Holylee Foreman. She took champion at Fettercairn and reserve at Echt.

Cross sheep (Judge: J Munro, Tain). Champion – Messrs Sutherland, Sibmister and Stainland Farms, Sibmister with a pair of Cheviot Mule gimmers. They were purchased as ewe lambs in Dumfries from Stobshiel Mains. Reserve – Messrs Sutherland with a three-crop Cheviot cross Texel ewe with her March-born Texel cross lambs. Champion cross-bred at Sutherland and Nairn.

Jacob (Judge: A Christie, Huntly). Champion – Barbara Webster, Newburgh, Fife with the shearling Carrochy Ziggy. Breed champion at the Royal Highland and Fettercairn, he is by Blackbrook Mowhawk and out of a home-bred ewe. Reserve – Barbara Webster with the two-shear tup Carrochy Yolo, First at the Royal Highland and Fettercairn, he took breed champion at Perth. He is another son of Mowhawk, bred from the dam Carrochy Tilly.

North Country Cheviot (Judge:

Black Isle

Above: The Simmental and reserve cattle champion – also champion at the breed national show – a Heifer from A&A Wright. Right: The Cheviot Park Type champion and sheep interbreed champion from GRG McCallum and Son, with Jo Gall and her son.

A Simpson, Wick). Champion and inter-breed sheep – Jo Gall, Belmaduthy flock, Munlochy with Belmaduthy Ella. A two-crop ewe by a Broomhill bank Commander and out of a home-bred daughter of Gospelhall Pick Me. She took reserve at Turriff and placed in her class at the Royal Highland. Reserve – DN Campbell and Sons, Bardnaclavan, Thurso with Bardnaclavan Shirley. A ewe lamb by Boxhill Fancy and out of a home-bred dam, she took second at Caithness.

North Country Cheviot (Hill) (Judge: P Tweedie, Jedburgh). Champion – M Cook, Dorrery with the five-year-old ewe Duchess of Dorrery. Sired by a £4000 Langdale tup and out of a home-bred ewe, she was breed champion at Sutherland on her first outing. Reserve – Jan Mackenzie, Langdale, Strathnaver with Dorrery Equinox. A three-shear tup, he is by Instack Crask and out of a Dorrery bred ewe. He was purchased at Lairg for £9000 as a two-shear, and took reserve at Sutherland show this year.

Shetland (Judge: Emma Robertson, Westerskeld). Champion – I and Lesley Carnegie, Huntly with the two-shear tup Island Rebus. His first major championship win, he was bred by Richard Farquhar and was purchased at the Lerwick Flockbook Sale as a shearling. Reserve – I and Lesley Carnegie with Raedykes Egrette. A home-bred gimmer by Raedykes Pat and out of Raedykes Egret, she was previously out as a lamb, but this marks her first win.

Suffolk (Judge: A Shepherd, Tarland). Champion – W and C Ingram, Logie Durno, Inverurie with a shearling. Purchased as a ram lamb from Steven and Louise Buckley of the Sitlow flock for 8500gns at Shrewsbury, he is by Jalex X Factor. Reserve – M and I Bissett, Evanton with Birness Mel, a gimmer by Strathbogie Ice and bred from a Rookery The King daughter. Taking champion at Sutherland and reserve at Nairn, she was purchased at Dingwall Highland Ladies Sale for 1300gns.

Blue Texel (Judge: Katrina Macarthur, Nairn). Champion – A and K Rhind and Son, Newton of Struthers, Kinloss with Struthers Klassy, a home-bred gimmer that took champion at Nairn last week. She is by Belli Blues Euphoric and out of Struthers Hope. Reserve – Deborah Atkinson, Insch with Tap O Noth Kestral, a gimmer by Trisent Goliath and bred from the former show ewe Tap O Noth Glitterball. This is her first outing.

Zwartbles (Judge: Emma Smith, Taynuilt). Champion – M and I Bissett, Evanton with the shearling Janetstown Knightrider. A private purchase from Sammy Stewart's Janetstown flock, he previously took champion at Keith as a lamb. He is by Clarewood Mr Bridghtside and out of Janetstown Key. Reserve – M and I Bissett with Cara Princess, a ewe lamb by Cernyw Kai and out of Cara Jennifer. She took first in her class at the Royal Highland and reserve champion at both Sutherland and Nairn.

AOB sheep (Non-accredited) (Judge: A Humphries, Dingwall). Champion – Sophie Anderson, Plewlands, Duffus with a two-crop Badgerface Texel ewe purchased privately from Stuart Wood. This is her third consecutive any other breed champion here at the show, she also took champion any other breed at Nairn this year. Reserve – M Anderson, Watten, Caithness with a two-shear Bluefaced Leicester tup sired by West Catchery S1 and out of a home-bred ewe. Took champion male at Latheron.

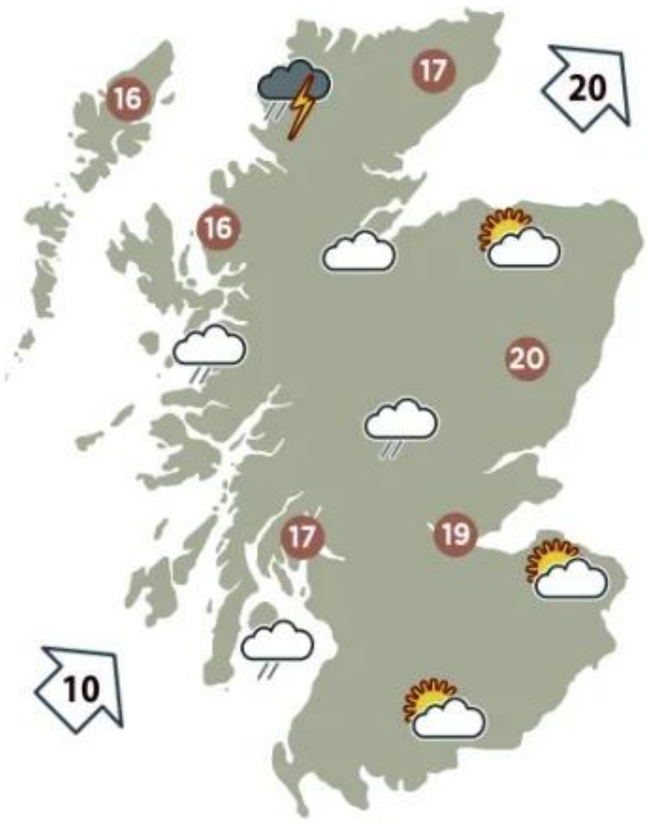
Valais Blacknose (Judge: Irene Gray, Antrim, Northern Ireland). Champion – Cat Losty, Nithsdale Valais Blacknose, New Cumnock with the January-born ewe lamb, Nithsdale Nell. Sired by Oakdene Jake and out of Westmorland Joelle, she previously took first in her class at Dumfries. Reserve – Black isle Valais Balcknose, Avoch with Black Isle Nacho, a tup lamb by last year's champion Yorkshire Loki and out of Black Isle Klover. He placed third at Perth Show.

Crofters sheep (Suffolk and Texel judge: Jenny Peasley, Hallkirk; Blackface and Cheviot judge: P McCusbic, Isle of Skye). Champion – Messrs Bissett and Blacwood, Mill Farm, Durran, Caithness with a Texel tup lamb sired by an Overburns tup purchased at Lanark which goes back to Clanfield Golden. He was reserve male champion at Caithness Show last month. M MacRae, Muir of Ord with a home-bred Cheviot gimmer by a Dorrery sire. This is her first outing.

National Hampshire Down Show (Judge: S Jones, Haverfordwest). Champion – R and Sheena McFarlane and Lorna Rennie, Lecropt, Bridge of Allan with Lecropt Pixie. On her second outing, she is a ewe lamb by Normandy Highlander and out of Lecropt Lexie. She placed fourth in her class at the Royal Highland on her first outing. Reserve – R and Sheena McFarlane and Lorna Rennie with the shearling Lecropt Olympus. Another Highlander son, he is out of Lecropt Martini, a ewe which took third at the Scottish National Show at Stirling last year. Olympus has a show career as a lamb taking third in his class at the National Show.

WEATHER

Shetland, Orkney	North West, Caithness	Moray Firth, Inverness
AM PM	AM PM	AM PM
Aberdeen, North East	**Central Highlands**	**Argyll and West**
AM PM	AM PM	AM PM



GENERAL SITUATION

MODERATE

Morning brings cloudy skies and showers in many areas with brisk winds. Afternoon sees a mix of sunshine and scattered showers, gradually easing. Evening remains breezy with clear spells and occasional drizzle.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Tomorrow brings wet conditions across much of Scotland. Early next week will see a mix of sunshine and occasional showers, gradually improving midweek.

AROUND SCOTLAND

2-day forecast	Today TEMP (°C) Max	min	outlook	Tomorrow TEMP (°C) max	min	outlook
Aberdeen	20	13	cloudy	20	14	cloudy
Arbroath	18	13	cloudy	18	13	cloudy
Aviemore	16	12	rain	17	11	rain
Banff	19	14	cloudy	19	13	cloudy
Buckie	19	14	cloudy	19	13	cloudy
Fraserburgh	17	14	rain	17	14	cloudy
Invergordon	19	14	cloudy	19	13	cloudy
Inverness	17	14	rain	18	12	rain
Kinloss	19	14	cloudy	19	13	cloudy
Lerwick	14	12	rain	14	11	rain
Macduff	19	14	cloudy	19	13	cloudy
Mallaig	16	13	shwrs	16	12	rain
Oban	16	13	shwrs	16	12	rain
Peterhead	17	14	rain	17	14	cloudy
Stornoway	16	13	thdr	15	11	rain
Wick	17	13	thdr	16	11	rain

AROUND THE UK

2-day forecast	Today TEMP (°C) Max	min	outlook	Tomorrow TEMP (°C) max	min	outlook
Belfast	20	12	cloudy	20	13	fair
Birmingham	24	10	fair	19	13	rain
Bristol	21	15	sun	26	14	fair
Cardiff	22	10	fair	22	16	fair
Darlington	22	10	fair	25	13	fair
Dundee	19	13	cloudy	24	14	fair
Edinburgh	19	12	cloudy	24	11	fair
Exeter	23	8	fair	26	14	sun
Glasgow	17	12	rain	26	14	sun
Ipswich	23	10	fair	27	14	fair
Leicester	24	12	fair	28	15	sun
London	24	10	fair	25	14	fair
Manchester	26	13	sun	27	15	sun
Norwich	21	10	fair	23	14	fair
Plymouth	23	13	fair	26	15	fair
Swansea	22	12	sun	21	15	fair

HIGH TIDES

Aberdeen	21.04	09.33	22.22
Arbroath	21.47	10.18	23.09
Banff	19.20	07.46	20.35
Buckie	19.21	07.48	20.38
Fraserburgh	19.44	08.13	21.01
Invergordon	19.14	07.45	20.32
Lerwick	18.23	06.57	19.44
Macduff	19.20	07.46	20.35
Mallaig	12.45	02.12	14.52
Montrose	21.50	10.20	23.09
Oban	12.28	01.55	14.35
Peterhead	20.33	09.02	21.47
Scrabster	16.16	04.40	17.37
Ullapool	14.39	03.15	16.01
Wick	18.46	07.16	20.04

ABROAD

Weather at noon local time yesterday except *denotes readings from the day before

	(°C)	(°F)	
Amsterdam	20	68	sunny
Athens	35	95	sunny
Balearics	33	91	fair
Barbados	31	88	sunny
Barcelona	32	90	fair
Beijing	35	95	fair
Berlin	27	81	fair
Budapest	38	100	sunny
Cairo	33	91	sunny
Canaries	29	84	fair
Chicago*	27	81	cloudy
Copenhagen	22	72	fair
Corfu	35	95	sunny
Costa del Sol	28	82	sunny
Crete	30	86	sunny
Cyprus	33	91	sunny
Dublin	18	64	cloudy
Faro	27	81	sunny
Frankfurt	27	81	sunny
French Riviera	30	86	sunny
Geneva	29	84	fair
Helsinki	23	73	showers
Houston	33	91	sunny
Istanbul	31	88	sunny
Johannesburg	21	70	sunny
Los Angeles*	24	75	fair
Madrid	34	93	sunny
Majorca	33	91	fair
Malta	34	93	sunny
Miami*	31	88	thunder
Montreal*	27	81	sunny
Moscow	25	77	rain
Naples	34	93	sunny
New York*	29	84	cloudy
Oslo	19	66	cloudy
Paris	23	73	fair
Prague	27	81	rain
Rhodes	28	82	sunny
Rome	32	90	sunny
Singapore	31	88	sunny
Stockholm	23	73	fair
Sydney	15	59	sunny
Toronto	28	82	sunny
Vancouver*	20	68	sunny
Vienna	34	93	sunny

LIGHT-UP TIMES

Moving vehicles should display dipped headlights from sunset to sunrise and during times of poor visibility.

Sunrise	Sunset	M/rise	M/set	Light-ups
ABERDEEN 05.18	21.10	23.02	17.40	21.10 - 05.20
INVERNESS 05.22	21.19	23.03	17.53	21.19 - 05.24
LERWICK 04.59	21.21	22.18	18.15	21.21 - 05.01
STORNOWAY 05.30	21.32	23.07	18.10	21.32 - 05.32

HILLWALKERS' 48-HOUR FORECAST

East Highlands, West Highlands, Cairngorms, Skye:

Today, expect rain across northern areas with strong winds, particularly in Shetland and Orkney. Tomorrow, conditions remain unsettled, with heavy rain likely.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

In Britain Wednesday

Warmest: Writtle, 27c.

Coldest: Aboyne No 2, 9c.

Wettest: Fyvie Castle, 72.80mm.

Sunniest: St Athan, 10.4hrs.

Don't miss your farming pullout
The P&J | Every Saturday, in your P&J.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

tv highlights

Granite Harbour
(BBC1, 8pm-9pm)
After an all-too-short run, the current series of the crime drama concludes – and the discovery of another body throws the investigation into chaos. MacMillan, Bart and Lindo suspect this murder is linked to the deaths of teenagers Lisa and Matty, and also uncover links between the fire that nearly claimed Rose Gough's life and a long-hidden agreement that could change the rights of the Travelling community to be on the Loughty estate. However, when the case takes another dramatic turn, the team once again focus on Matty's missing phone, which they believe holds the key to identifying the killer.

Ann Droid
(BBC1, 9.30pm-10pm)
It's got a cast stacked with comedy ringers (led by Diane Morgan and Sue Johnston), so we shouldn't be surprised that this sitcom has been picking up rave reviews from critics and viewers alike. This week, Sue's attempting to build bridges by asking Michael (Paul Ready) and Renee (Andrea Valls) to come over for a nice family dinner.

Bergerac
(BBC2, 9pm-9.45pm)
The battle between Jim and Arthur Wakefield intensifies. Since discovering that Cate may have betrayed Arthur, Bergerac feels he is closing in on his chief suspect. But the detective may have reckoned without Chloe though, as her expose gains momentum after she discovers there may be some truth in John Blakely's accusations after all.

Bargain Hunt: 20 Years of The One Show
(BBC1, 12.15pm-1pm)
Danny Sebastian hosts a special episode celebrating 20 years of the One Show, with Angellica Bell and JB Gill taking on Kevin Duala and Hannah Stitfall at an antiques fair in Builth Wells, Powys. Danny Sebastian also visits the One Show studio to meet Alex Jones and Roman Kemp.

Our Lives
(BBC1, 7.30pm-8pm)
Documentary following South Wales punk band the NaNaz, six women who are tearing up the rulebook on growing older. Since meeting at a community workshop in south Wales set up to get women over 50 into music, the group have built a loyal fanbase across South Wales and released an EP – NaNafesto.

Daytime

BBC1

6.00 **Breakfast** 9.30 **Animal Park** (r) 10.15 **Trace, Track, Get My Car Back** (r) 10.45 **Expert Witness** (r) 11.15 **Homes Under the Hammer** (r)
12.15 **Bargain Hunt: 20 Years of The One Show**
1.00 **BBC News at One; Weather**
1.35 **Reporting Scotland; Weather**
1.45 **BBC News at One; Weather**
2.00 **The Hairdresser Mysteries** Lily finds herself with both a hairstyle emergency and a murder to solve.
2.45 **Escape to the Country** (r)
3.45 **The Bidding Room**
4.30 **The Answer Run**
5.15 **Pointless** (r)
6.00 **BBC News at Six; Weather**
6.30 **Reporting Scotland; Weather**

BBC2

6.30 **Money for Nothing** (r) 7.15 **The Bidding Room** (r) 8.00 **Sign Zone: Marcus Wareing Simply Provence** (r) 9.00 **BBC News**
1.00 **Richard Osman's House of Games** (r)
1.30 **The Finish Line** (r) Quiz, hosted by Roman Kemp and Sarah Greene.
2.15 **Do You Know Your Place?** (r)
2.45 **The Hairy Bikers' Bakeation** (r) The duo reach northern Spain.
3.45 **The Farmers' Country Showdown** (r)
4.30 **Vintage Antiques Roadshow** (r)
5.15 **Flog It!** (r)
6.00 **Richard Osman's House of Games** (r)
6.30 **Just One Thing** (r)

STV

6.00 **Good Morning Britain** 10.00 **This Morning**
1.30 **ITV Lunchtime News; Weather**
1.55 **STV News; Weather**
2.00 **Dickinson's Real Deal** (r) David Dickinson and his dealer den visit Newport.
3.00 **Deal or No Deal** (r) Ronnie tries to open the 22 red boxes in the right order.
3.59 **STV Weather Central**
4.00 **Tipping Point** (r) Quiz, hosted by Ben Shephard.
5.00 **The Chase** (r) Contestants Comghal, Samantha, Adam and Yung Yung take part.
6.00 **STV News at Six; Weather**
6.30 **ITV Evening News; Weather**

The Hairdresser Mysteries, 2pm

Gardeners' World, 8pm

Dickinson's Real Deal, 2pm

Primetime

7.00 **The One Show** Topical stories.
7.30 **Our Lives** Following South Wales punk band the NaNaz, six women who are tearing up the rulebook on growing older as they prepare for their first international gig in New York City.
8.00 **Granite Harbour** (r) As the case reaches a conclusion, Lindo and Bart face a race against time to find the real killer as long-held secrets are finally revealed. Last in the series.
9.00 **Would I Lie to You?** (r) Guest panellists Cush Jumbo, Judi Love, Grayson Perry and Tim Vine bolster the deceitful talents of team captains Lee Mack and David Mitchell. Rob Brydon hosts.
9.30 **Ann Droid** Sue has invited Michael and Renee to a nice family dinner but is upset when their real motive for coming round is revealed. Linda proves to be useful by averting tragedy.
10.00 **BBC News at Ten**
10.30 **Reporting Scotland; Weather**
10.45 **FILM: 28 Days Later** (2002) Horror, starring Cillian Murphy.

7.00 **Iolo's Anglesey** (r) Iolo Williams explores the flora and fauna of Anglesey.
7.30 **Beechgrove Garden** Brian Cunningham harvests his spring vegetables, while Calum Clunie begins sowing winter crops in his family plot.
8.00 **Gardeners' World** Frances Tophill returns to Damson Farm in Bath and spends the day with owner Alison and guest Mary Berry, while Arit Anderson visits an inspiring urban edible garden in London.
9.00 **Bergerac** Chloe finds evidence proving there is some truth in John Blakely's accusations, and a development leads the team to suspect one of Jersey's criminals.
9.45 **QI XL** (r) Sandi Toksvig hosts an extended edition, with Ria Lina, Eshaan Akbar, Jimmy Carr and Alan Davies answering questions on the theme of tricks and treats.
10.30 **Newsnight** Followed by Weather
11.05 **FILM: Hoard** (2023) Premiere. Drama, starring Saura Lightfoot-Leon.

7.00 **The STV Radio Football Takeover** Ewen Cameron, Ronnie Charters and Callum Bell tackle the biggest talking points in Scottish football with plenty of laughs, heated arguments and passionate opinions.
7.30 **EFL Cup Live** Middlesbrough v Wrexham (Kick-off 8pm). Mark Pougatch presents all the action from the first-round tie at Riverside Stadium. Boro will be looking to avoid a repeat of this stage last season, when they were beaten 4-0 here by Doncaster Rovers. Wrexham fared better in the competition, going on to reach the fourth round before they were eliminated by Welsh rivals Cardiff City following a 2-1 defeat. With commentary by Seb Hutchinson and Lucy Ward.
10.25 **ITV News at Ten; Weather**
10.55 **STV News; Weather**
11.15 **FILM: Jack Reacher: Never Go Back** (2016) The vigilante tries to save an army major who has been framed for murder by a sinister conspiracy. Action thriller sequel, with Tom Cruise and Cobie Smulders.

Late

12.30 Weather for the Week Ahead 12.35 BBC News

1.00 Sign Zone: Britain's Strictest Schools – Panorama (r) 1.30 Sign Zone: The Rapture (r) 2.30 This Is BBC Two

1.10 Shop on TV 3.00 Force of Nature (r) 3.50 Long Lost Family (r) 4.45 Unwind with STV

Radio

BBC Radio 1
5.00 Radio 1 Early Breakfast. **6.58** Newsbeat. **7.00** Radio 1 Breakfast with Greg James. **10.00** Radio 1 Anthems with Nat and Vicky. **11.00** Radio 1's Group Chat with Nat and Vicky. **12.45** Newsbeat. **1.00** Sam and Danni. **3.00** Radio 1 Dance Party Starters with Sam and Danni. **4.00** The Official Chart on Radio 1 with Jack Saunders. **5.45** Newsbeat. **6.00** Radio 1's Dance Party with Danny Howard. **8.00** Radio 1's Future Dance with Sarah Story. **10.00** Pete Tong. **12.00** Radio 1's Essential Mix. **2.00** Radio 1 Dance Presents. **3.00** Danny Howard's Club Mix. **4.00** Radio 1 Dance Party Starters.

BBC Radio 2
6.30 The Sara Cox Breakfast Show. **9.30** Vernon Kay. **12.00** Jeremy Vine. **2.00** DJ Spoony. **4.00** Joel Dommett. **7.00** Michelle Visage. **8.30** Michelle Visage's Handbag Hits. **9.00** Sophie Ellis-Bextor's Kitchen Disco. **11.00** The Rock Show with Rick Astley. **12.00** Romesh Ranganathan: For the Love of Hip-Hop. **1.00** Tony Blackburn's Sounds of Soul. **2.00** Pick of the Pops. **3.00** Pick of the Pops. **4.00** Radio 2 Unwinds with Angela Griffin.

BBC Radio 3
6.30 Breakfast. **9.30** Essential Classics. **1.00** Classical Live. **4.00** Composer of the Week: Mozart. **5.00** In Tune. **7.00** BBC Proms 2026. **10.00** Late Junction. **11.30** 'Round Midnight. **12.30** Through the Night.

BBC Radio 4
5.00 News Summary. **5.04** The Briefing Room. **5.32** Weather. **5.34** Shipping Forecast. **5.43** Prayer for the Day. **5.45** Farming Today. **6.00** Today. **9.00** Desert Island Discs. **10.00** Woman's Hour. **11.00** The Food Programme. **11.45** Tony Hawks Is Giving Nothing Away. **12.00** News. **12.04** AntiSocial. **12.57** Weather. **1.00** The World at One. **1.45** The Bare Necessities. **2.00** The Archers. **2.15** Drama: Central Intelligence. **2.45** Living on the Edge. **3.00** Gardeners' Question Time. **3.45** Short Works. **4.00** Last Word. **4.30** Sideways. **5.00** PM. **6.00** Six O'Clock News. **6.30** Current-ish. **7.00** The Archers. **7.15** Screenshot. **8.00** Any Questions? **8.55** This Week in History. **9.00** Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics. **9.30** Breakin' the Cycle. **9.59** Weather. **10.00** The World Tonight. **10.45** Book at Bedtime: The Vicar of Wakefield. **11.00** Americast. **11.30** The Ocean within Us. **12.00** News and Weather. **12.30** Tony Hawks Is Giving Nothing Away. **12.48** Shipping Forecast. **1.00** As BBC World Service.

BBC Radio 5 live
5.00 Wake Up to Money. **6.00** 5 Live Breakfast. **9.00** Nicky Campbell. **11.00** Chiles on Friday. **1.00** Elis James and John Robins. **2.00** Matt Chorley. **4.00** 5 Live Drive. **7.00** 5 Live Sport. **8.00** Football. **10.00** Johnny I'Anson. **1.00** Edward Adoo.

Channel 4

6.30 **The King of Queens** (r) **7.45** **Everybody Loves Raymond** (r) **9.10** **Frasier** (r) **11.10** **Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** (r)
12.05 **Channel 4 News Summary**
12.10 **Find It, Fix It, Flog It** (r)
1.10 **The Great House Giveaway** (r) Accountant Kate and builder Jonny buy a house together at auction in Leeds.
2.10 **Countdown**
3.00 **A Place in the Sun** (r) House-hunters Jesica and Karl search for a holiday home in Cadiz, Spain.
4.00 **Saving Country Houses with Penelope Keith** (r)
5.00 **Chateau DIY** (r)
6.00 **American Pickers** (r)

5

6.00 **Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine 11.30 Storm & Alexis**
12.45 **5 News at Lunchtime**
12.50 **Matt Allwright**
2.20 **FILM: The Book Club Murders** (2024) Mystery, starring Brittany Underwood.
4.00 **Castle** (r) Part two of two. The NYPD and Castle search for Beckett.
4.55 **Love Nature** (r) Discovering how the humble fox should be celebrated not vilified.
5.00 **5 News with Dan Walker**
6.00 **Menorca: A Year in the Sun** (r) Part two of two. A look at Menorca's seafood, art and architectural restorations.
6.55 **5 News Update**

8 Out of 10 Cats Does ..., 9pm

Alexander Armstrong in ..., 9pm

7.00 **Channel 4 News** Including sport and weather.
8.00 **Surgery Secrets of the Super Rich** Hannah has a non-surgical liquid nose job, Hollie tackles years of sun damage with laser technology, and Nabeel's investing over £1,000 a month in a programme of tweakments.
9.00 **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown** Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy words and numbers quiz, as team captains Rob Beckett and Jon Richardson are joined by Katherine Ryan and Fatiha El-Ghorri.
10.00 **Big Fat Quiz: Best Bits** Victory is snatched from the jaws of humiliation, as comedians including Sara Pascoe, James Acaster and Jamie and Natasia Demetriou taste sweet success against all odds.
11.05 **Sarah Millican: Home Bird Live** (r) Stand-up show recorded at Newcastle's Tyne Theatre & Opera House, in which the comedian shares insights into life, including the need to put down some roots now she has cats.

7.00 **Tom Read Wilson's Grand Tour** (r) The presenter reimagines the rite of passage once undertaken by aristocrats on their Grand Tours of Europe, beginning in Paris.
7.55 **5 News Update**
8.00 **Corsica: Jewel of the Mediterranean** Cameras focus on the French island, which boasts 600 miles of stunning coastline, lush green forests and majestic mountains. Once a part of Italy, both French and Italian heritage can be seen today in the architecture, culture and food. Highlights include a trip to the port town of Bastia on the north-east coast of the island, a food-lover's paradise.
9.00 **Alexander Armstrong in South Korea** (r) Alexander journeys across South Korea, one of the most influential and successful countries on earth, known for its manufacturing strength and cultural exports.
10.30 **Piers Morgan: Uncensored** Opinion-led news and debate show hosted by Piers Morgan.

12.10 Greg Davies: The Back of My Mum's Head (r) **1.05** Ramy **1.40** Ramy **2.15** FILM: Theater Camp (2023) Comedy starring Ben Platt and Molly Gordon. **3.50** Sunday Brunch (r) **4.00** Four in a Bed (r) **4.25** Four in a Bed (r) **4.50** Four in a Bed (r) **5.15** Four in a Bed (r) **5.45** Four in a Bed (r)

12.00 Fare Dodgers: At War with the Law (r) **1.00** Cruise TV with LoveitBookit (r) **2.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors (r) **2.50** Castle (r) **3.40** Friends (r) **4.05** Friends (r) **4.30** Jane McDonald's Yorkshire: No Place Like Home (r) **5.25** Entertainment News on 5 **5.35** Milo (r) **5.45** The Adventures of Paddington (r)

BBC Radio Scotland
6.00 Radio Scotland Breakfast. **9.00** Mornings. **12.00** Lunchtime Live. **1.30** Breaking the News. **2.00** Radio Scotland Afternoons. **4.00** Drivetime. **6.00** Grant Stott's Vinyl Collective. **8.00** BBC Introducing in Scotland. **10.00** Up Late. **12.00** As BBC Radio 5 Live.

Classic FM
6.30 Classic FM Breakfast with Dan Walker. **9.00** The Classic FM Hall of Fame Hour with Dan Walker. **10.00** Aled Jones. **1.00** Anne-Marie Minhall. **4.00** Margherita Taylor. **6.00** Classic FM at the Movies with Jonathan Ross. **8.00** Classical Spotlight with Alexander Armstrong. **10.00** Calm Classics. **2.00** Katie Breathwick.

Original 106 FM
6.00 Claire and Pete. **10.00** Martin Ingram. **2.00** Craig Lumsden. **6.00** Sam Allan. **10.00** Party Night. **1.00** Through the Night.

Grampian Hospital Radio
7.00 Breakfast Show. **9.00** Jukebox. **10.00** A-Z of Pop. **11.00** Request Rewind. **1.00** 70s and 80s Show. **3.00** Gold. **4.00** Jukebox. **5.00** Retro Chart Show. **7.00** Request Show. **9.00** Jukebox. **10.00** Nice and Easy. **12.00** After Hours. **1.00** Overnight.

Highland Hospital Radio
7.00 On the Sunny Side of the Street. **8.00** The A to Z of Pop. **9.00** The 90s Hour. **10.00** Musical Memories. **11.00** Helen's Kind of Country. **12.00** Sherry's Shorts. **1.00** The Scottish Hour. **2.00** The Highland Fling. **3.00** Bedrock. **4.00** The Soul Hour. **5.00** Two in a Row. **6.00** Ready Steady Go Go. **7.00** The Country Hour. **8.00** Live at Eight. **9.00** Mike's Music Madness. **10.00** Please Don't Take Them Away. **11.00** The A to Z of Pop. **12.00** Through the Night.

freeview/satellite

BBC3

7.00 The Catch Up. **7.05** I Am Darren. **7.20** **FILM:** Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (2009). Fantasy comedy sequel, starring Ben Stiller. **9.00** Death in Paradise. **10.00** Ghosts Australia. **10.45** The Golden Cobra. **12.40** Ideal. **3.35** Calamity James.

BBC4

7.00 Also Sprach Zarathustra at the Proms. Featuring a trio of pieces inspired by the wonders of the sky. **8.05** Ravel's Bolero at the Proms. **8.20** TOTP: 2000. **8.45** TOTP: 1984. **9.15** TOTP: 1988. **9.45** Tony Bennett at the London Palladium: BBC Sessions. **10.45** Tony Bennett Sings – Songs from the Movies. **11.15** Tony Bennett Sings – His Personal Hit Songbook. **11.50** Tony Bennett Sings – Songs of Broadway. **12.20** Tony Bennett Sings – Saloon Songs. **12.55** Tony Bennett Sings – Song Stories. **1.25** Tony Bennett Sings – Tin Pan Alley. **1.55** Tony Bennett's New York. **3.20** TOTP: 2000.

ITV2

6.00 Backyard Builds. **6.30** Dress to Impress. **7.30** The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City. **8.20** The Real Housewives of Orange County. **9.20** The Only Way Is Essex. **10.20** Dawson's Creek. **11.20** Charmed. **12.15** Deal or No Deal. **1.15** Supermarket Sweep. **2.15** The Floor USA. **3.10** The Only Way Is Essex. **4.10** The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City. **5.00** The Real Housewives of Orange County. **6.00** Celebrity Catchphrase. **7.00** The Floor USA. **8.00** The 1% Club. **9.00** **FILM:** John Wick (2014). Action thriller, starring Keanu Reeves. **11.05** Family Guy. **12.05** American Dad! **1.05** Bob's Burgers. **1.55** Deal or No Deal: Banker's Best Battles. **2.20** Unwind with ITV. **3.00** Teleshopping.

ITV3

6.00 George and Mildred. **7.05** Classic Emmerdale. **8.10** Classic Coronation Street. **9.10** Agatha Christie's Poirot. **11.30** Heartbeat. **1.35** Midsomer Murders. **3.35** Classic Emmerdale. **4.40** Classic Coronation Street. **5.50** Heartbeat. **8.00** Doc Martin. **10.00** Grantchester. **11.50** Trial & Retribution. **12.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot. **2.00** George and Mildred. **2.30** Teleshopping.

ITV4

6.00 Magnum, PI. **8.05** Dempsey and Makepeace. **9.10** Boon. **10.15** The Professionals. **11.20** Robin of Sherwood. **12.25** Magnum, PI. **2.35** Dempsey and Makepeace. **3.45** Boon. **4.50** The Professionals. **5.50** Minder. **6.55** Sharpe. **9.00** **FILM:** RoboCop (1987). Sci-fi thriller, starring Peter Weller. **11.10** All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite. **1.30** Minder. **2.30** Two and a Half Men. **3.00** Teleshopping.

SKY ONE

6.00 Mornings with Jones and Melbourne. **8.00** Stargate SG-1. **9.00** NCIS: Los Angeles. **10.00** Will & Grace. **11.00** The Simpsons. **12.00** Moon: Nature's Secret Force. **1.00** Hawaii Five-0. **3.00** S.W.A.T. **5.00** The Simpsons. **6.00** Animal Control. **7.00** The Simpsons. **8.00** An Idiot Abroad 2. **9.00** Micky Flanagan: If Ever We Needed It. **10.15** Grimsburg. **11.45** Animal Control. **12.45** Grimm. **1.40** The Force: Manchester. **2.30** Road Wars. **3.00** Hawaii Five-0.

SKY MAIN EVENT

6.00 Sky Sports News. **7.00** Sky Sports Breakfast. **9.00** Good Morning Transfers. **10.00** Sky Sports FC. **12.00** Transfer Talk. **1.00** Lunchtime Live. **2.00** Sports Desk. **3.00** The Hundred Live. **6.00** Sky Sports News. **7.00** Live EFL Cup. Middlesbrough v Wrexham (Kick-off 8pm). **10.45** Live Tennis. **11.00** Live Tennis. **4.00** Sky Sports News.

SKY CRICKET

6.00 The Hundred. **9.15** The Hundred Bitesize. **9.45** The Hundred Bitesize. **10.00** The Hundred Bitesize. **10.15** The Hundred Bitesize. **10.30** The Hundred Bitesize. **10.45** The Hundred. **2.15** The Hundred Bitesize. **2.30** The Hundred Bitesize. **2.45** The Hundred Live. **6.00** The Hundred Live. **9.30** The Hundred Bitesize. **9.45** The Hundred Bitesize. **10.00** The Hundred. **1.30** The Hundred Bitesize. **1.45** The Hundred Bitesize. **2.00** The Hundred. **5.15** Best of ICC WT20. **5.45** The Hundred Bitesize.

SKY ACTION

6.00 Betfred Super League. **8.30** Betfred Super League Highlights. **9.00** Live NRL. **11.00** Live NRL. **1.00** Good Morning Football. **3.00** NFL Highlights. **4.00** Betfred Super League Highlights. **5.00** NFL Highlights. **5.15** Super Bowl LX Bitesize Highlights. **5.30** NBA Basketball. **7.30** Live Betfred Super League. Wakefield Trinity v Leeds Rhinos (Kick-off 8pm). **10.15** The Final Round. **11.15** Women's Super League. **11.45** Betfred Super League Highlights. **12.00** The Insiders. **1.00** NFL Highlights. **2.00** Betfred Super League. **4.45** Women's Super League. **5.00** Betfred Super League Highlights.

SKY FOOTBALL

6.00 EFL Highlights. **7.00** EFL. **8.00** EFL Highlights. **9.00** SPFL Highlights. **9.30** EFL Greatest Games. **10.00** EFL Cup Retro. **12.00** EFL Highlights. **2.00** EFL. **3.00** SPFL Highlights. **3.30** EFL Cup Highlights. **6.30** Best Goals: Efl Cup 25/26. **7.00** Live EFL Cup. Middlesbrough v Wrexham (Kick-off 8pm). **10.45** Championship Season Review. **11.45** SPFL Round-Up. The latest action. **12.15** Championship Retro. **2.15** Henrik Larsson: 20 Years On. **3.15** SPFL Highlights. **3.45** EFL Greatest Games. **4.00** EFL Cup Highlights. **5.00** SPFL Highlights. **5.30** EFL Greatest Games.

TNT SPORTS 1

6.00 Premier League Stories. **6.30** Classic Premier League. **7.30** LIV Golf. **9.00** Test Cricket Highlights. **10.00** TNT Sports Reload. **10.30** Live AFL. **1.30** Premier League Stories. **2.00** The Gruppetto. **2.15** Live: Tour de France Women. **5.15** TNT Sports Reload. **5.30** MLB Plays of the Week. **6.00** MLB Highlights. **7.00** Supercars Championship Highlights. **9.00** MotoGP. **9.30** AFL. **11.00** MLB Highlights. **12.00** Live MLB. **3.00** British Superbikes Highlights. **4.00** FIM Speedway Grand Prix Highlights. **5.00** Formula E Flashback.

TNT SPORTS 2

6.00 FIM Speedway Grand Prix Highlights. **7.00** British Superbikes Rewind. **7.15** MotoGP Rewind. **10.00** Live MotoGP. **12.45** LIV Golf. **2.15** Live MotoGP. **5.15** MotoGP Highlights. **6.15** British Superbikes Highlights. **7.15** Premier League Stories. **7.45** TNT Sports Reload. **8.00** Fencing World Championships. **10.00** Test Cricket Highlights. **11.00** CPL Highlights. **11.30** Live: CPL. **3.45** TNT Sports Reload. **4.00** Discovery Golf.

MORE4

8.55 Heir Hunters. **10.00** Four in a Bed. **12.40** Come Dine with Me. **3.20** Four in a Bed. **5.50** Car S.O.S. **7.55** Grand Designs. **9.00** Carpe Diem. **10.05** 24 Hours in A&E. **12.15** 999: On the Front Line. **1.15** 24 Hours in A&E. **3.25** A Place in the Sun.

BBC ALBA

6.00 Alba Today. **5.00** Na Clangairean. **5.15** Losgannan/Froglets. **5.20** Creag nam Buthaidean. **5.30** 'S E Iasg a Th'Annam. **5.35** Peataichean/Pets. **5.40** Abadas. **5.55** Stòiridh. **6.00** An Teaghlach Rioghail an Ath-dhoras. **6.20** Clann Na Cruinne. **6.40** Belle agus Sebastian. **6.50** Seonaidh. **7.00** An Là. **7.25** Brunch le Abigail. **7.30** Machair. **8.00** Slighe Naoimh Cuithbeirt. **8.30** Mas Fhior. **9.00** Aig aí Mhullach. **10.00** Coin Trusaidh/Muster Dogs. **10.55** Srùb: Scotland on Coffee. **12.00** Alba Today.

BBC SCOTLAND

- 7pm as BBC2 except:
12.00 This Is BBC Scotland.

Also Sprach Zarathustra at the Proms,BBC4, 7pm

7.00 Reporting Scotland: News at Seven. **7.25** Sportscene: Championship Live. Partick Thistle v Livingston (Kick-off 7.30pm). **9.30** Best of Only an Excuse? **10.00** Still Game. **10.30** Two Doors Down. **11.00** Rip It Up.

U&GOLD

6.00 Teleshopping. **7.10** Don't Wait Up. **7.50** Going Straight. **8.30** Only Fools and Horses. **9.10** The Green Green Grass. **9.50** Are You Being Served? **10.30** Last of the Summer Wine. **11.45** Going Straight. **12.25** Only Fools and Horses. **1.05** Keeping Up Appearances. **1.45** Dad's Army: The Lost Episodes. **2.25** The Green Green Grass. **3.05** Are You Being Served? **3.45** Going Straight. **4.25** Dad's Army: The Lost Episodes. **5.00** Last of the Summer Wine. **6.20** Keeping Up Appearances. **7.00** Dad's Army: The Lost Episodes. **7.35** Porridge. **8.20** Are You Being Served? **9.00** The Office. **9.40** Fawlty Towers. **10.20** Not Going Out. **11.00** The Green Green Grass. **11.40** The Office. **12.20** Fawlty Towers. **1.00** Not Going Out. **1.40** Am I Being Unreasonable? **2.30** Don't Wait Up. **3.00** Am I Being Unreasonable? **3.30** The Green Green Grass. **4.00** Teleshopping.

SKY MIX

6.00 Teleshopping. **7.00** Border Security: Canada's Front Line. **8.00** Border Patrol. **9.00** Nothing to Declare. **11.00** Border Security: America's Front Line. **12.00** Caught on Dashcam. **1.00** Police 24/7. **2.00** Nothing to Declare. **4.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. **5.00** Stargate SG-1. **6.00** Stargate Universe. **7.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation. **8.00** Police 24/7. **9.00** **FILM:** The Bricklayer (2023). Thriller, starring Aaron Eckhart. **11.00** Star Trek: Enterprise. **12.00** Fantasy Island. **1.00** Police 24/7. **2.00** Road Wars. **3.00** Highway Patrol. **4.00** Border Patrol. **5.00** Highway Cops.

FILM4

11.00 Oliver! (1968). **1.55** Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon (1942). **3.15** Buchanan Rides Alone (1958). **4.50** The True Story of Jesse James (1957). **6.40** Ad Astra (2019). **9.00** The Martian (2015). Ridley Scott's sci-fi drama, starring Matt Damon. **11.50** Last Night in Soho (2021). **2.05** Sick of Myself (2023).

U&DAVE

6.00 Teleshopping. **7.25** Top Gear. **8.20** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers. **10.20** Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul. **11.20** Yukon Gold. **12.20** Top Gear. **2.20** Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing. **3.00** Martin Clunes: Islands of Australia. **4.00** Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul. **5.00** Rick Stein's Cornwall. **6.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. **7.00** Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing. **7.40** Would I Lie to You? **8.20** QI XL. **9.20** Would I Lie to You? **10.00** Magnum P.I. **12.00** Mock the Week. **12.40** Would I Lie to You? **2.00** QI. **3.15** Richard Osman's House of Games. **4.00** Teleshopping.

CODEWORD

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. We have decoded some letters to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the grid then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

■	17	11	22	6	8	19	26	■	10	12	11	24
25	■	23	■	10	■	10	■	25	■	11	■	3
19	22	8	4	23	4	2	■	7	22	15	15	10
1	■	23	■	4	■	19	■	3	■	15	■	11
20	1	1	19	■	9	4	18	22	23	22	25	18
22	■	20	■	3	■	2	■	16	■	23	■	10
25	4	23	25	4	2	■	24	5	22	16	5	■
5	■	■	■	9	■	■	■	24	■	■	■	3
■	6	10	3	3	26	■	6	19	1	24	5	4
10	■	6	■	4	■	12	■	26	■	4	■	14
25	20	22	18	25	11	22	24	■	10	21	19	4
25	■	2	■	5	■	23	■	24	■	24	■	3
4	19	22	24	4	■	18	10	3	17	11	22	25
25	■	24	■	2	■	10	■	22	■	3	■	4
25	1	26	10	■	4	23	13	1	26	4	2	■

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 A	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23 N	24	25 S	26

Yesterday's solution:

B	M	Z	C	T	E	D	Q	F	N	Y	R	J
W	H	A	S	I	U	V	O	L	P	G	X	K

SUDOKU - Medium

There is just one simple rule in Sudoku. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 and so must each 3 x 3 box. This is a logic puzzle and you should not have to guess.

7								2
				5				
		3	9		4	8		
			3		8			
	7						4	
8		1	4		9	7		5
	2						1	
		5	7		2	6		
	6		5	4	1		2	

Yesterday's solution:

9	6	3	7	4	5	1	2	8
1	4	7	2	8	6	5	9	3
5	2	8	9	3	1	7	4	6
2	7	1	6	5	4	8	3	9
3	9	5	1	2	8	6	7	4
4	8	6	3	7	9	2	1	5
6	3	2	8	9	7	4	5	1
7	1	4	5	6	3	9	8	2
8	5	9	4	1	2	3	6	7

SUGURU ®

Each cell in an outlined block must contain a digit: a two-cell block contains the digits 1 and 2 a three-cell block contains the digits 1 2 and 3; and so on. The same digit must not appear in neighbouring cells, not even diagonally.

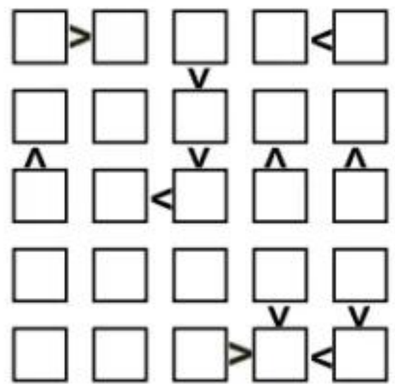
		3			
	4	1	3		
3					

Yesterday's solution:

2	1	2	3	4	1
3	5	4	1	2	5
1	2	3	5	3	4
4	5	1	2	1	5
1	2	3	4	3	2
3	4	1	2	5	1

FUTOSHIKI

Fill the blank squares so each row and column contains all the numbers 1 to 5. Use any given numbers and the symbols telling you if the number in the square is larger (>) or smaller (<) than the number next to it.



Yesterday's solution:

1	2 <	3 <	5	4
2 ∧	4	1 <	3	5
4	1	5	2	3 ∨
3 ∨	5 >	4	1	2
5 ∧	3	2 <	4	1

WORD WHEEL

You have 10 minutes to find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each must use the hub letter and at least 3 others. Letters may be used only once. You cannot use plurals foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one 9-letter word to be found.

Yesterday's solution:

Abort, Atom, Boat, Boot, Bottom, Brat, Mart, Matt, Moat, Moot, Mort, Motor, Motto, Robot, Root, Rota, Taboo, Tabor, Taro, Tarot, Tart, Tomato, Tomb, Toot, Tort, Tram, Trot, MOTORBOAT.

SET SQUARE

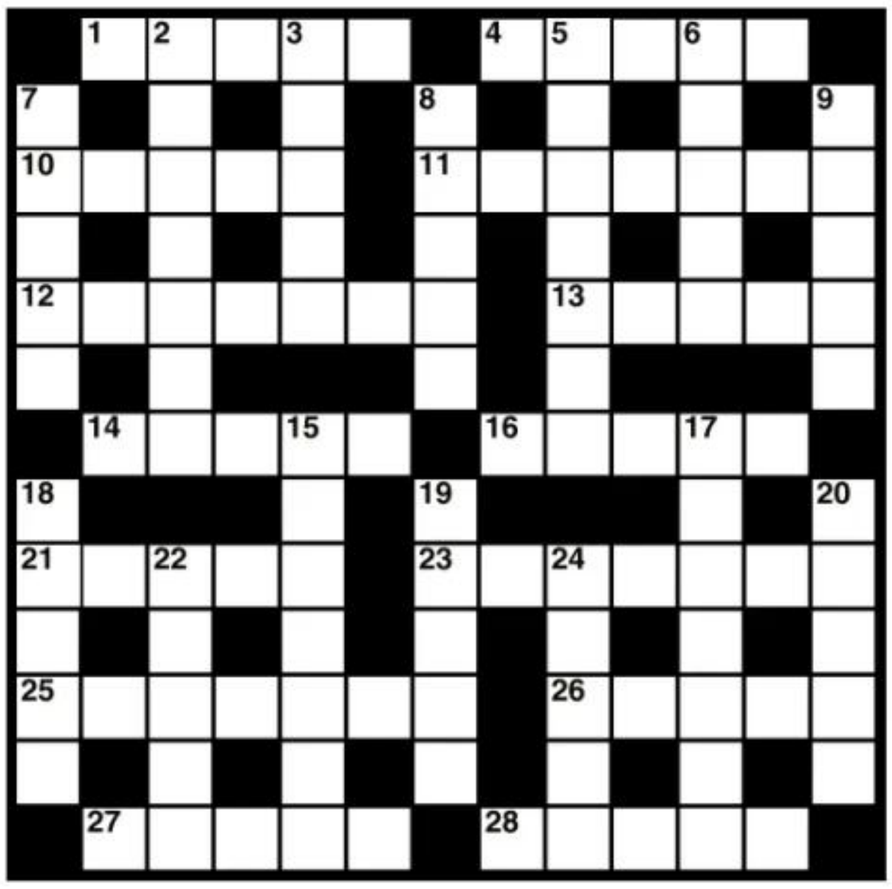
All the digits from 1 to 9 are used in this grid, but only once. Can you work out their positions in the grid and make the sums work?

8	−		+		= 10
+		×		+	
	×		+		= 12
+		−		−	
	+	2	×		= 36
=		=		=	
15		3		10	

Yesterday's solution:

8	×	6	−	3
−		+		+
4	−	2	+	9
+		+		+
5	+	7	÷	1

CRYPTIC CLUES



ACROSS

1 Leading European character in local pharmacy (5)
4 Twice Nigeria hosts ancient race (5)
10 Moderate, not initially, frequently (5)
11 Charm dog holding back you and I (7)
12 I translate bear in Spanish and Portuguese (7)
13 Connects with the golf course (5)
14 Eagle's nest in Brazilian city almost in view (5)
16 Musical drama – finale of Rigoletto pear-shaped (5)
21 Establish a good start in the tennis match (3,2)
23 Cornish pit container belonging to me (3,4)
25 Charm of another name belonging to us (7)
26 In front of a leader? (5)
27 Full up from exotic dates (5)
28 Ski slope where pet is scrambling (5)

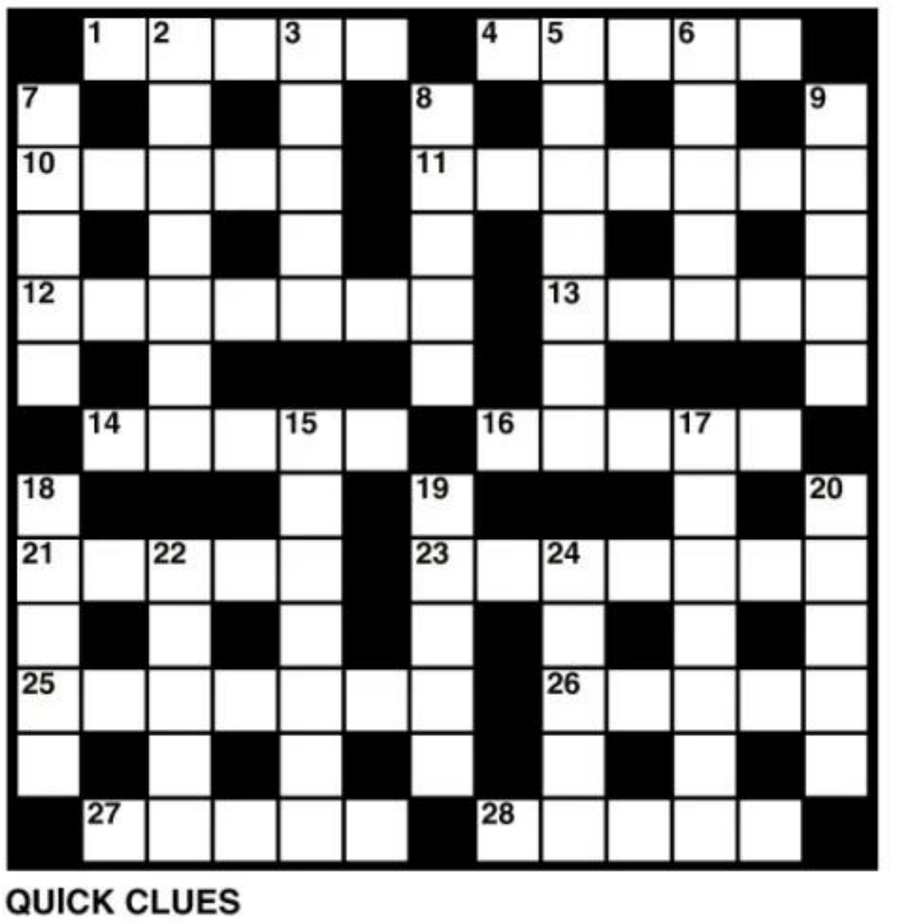
DOWN

2 Supply Article 50, after 51 years! (7)
3 Back one language (5)
5 Flower kissed by a bull? (7)
6 First tipple taken by midday? Unacceptable! (3,2)
7 Company parasites nearly cause tummy-ache (5)
8 Lean against European wood (5)
9 Selected cold spray (5)
15 Collapse that is restricting old PM, perhaps (7)
17 Train me repairing old clothes (7)
18 Enquired about a desk (5)
19 Reversal of vessel carrying the French for you (1-4)
20 Sales leader objects to broadcasts (5)
22 Jewelled coronet from Croatia (rare) (5)
24 A fan vandalised one canteen (inits) (5)

Yesterday's solution:

CRYPTIC - ACROSS: 1 Resume 4 Twitch 8 Nor 9 Electoral 11 Into 12 Steerage 15 Hairpiece 18 Bergerac 19 Cite 21 Latecomer 23 Ian 24 Signet 25 Hansel **DOWN:** 1 Rancid 2 Stretcher 3 Mien 5 Withered 6 Tor 7 Helmet 10 Ectoplasm 13 Aperitifs 14 Wiseacre 16 Obelus 17 Vernal 20 Area 22 Tog.

QUICK - ACROSS: 1 Squawk 4 Thesis 8 Roe 9 Ash blonde 11 Earn 12 Vanguard 15 High-class 18 Physique 19 Trio 21 Initiated 23 Nip 24 Greens 25 Meteor **DOWN:** 1 Server 2 Unearthly 3 Wean 5 Hologram 6 Sin 7 Steady 10 Head count 13 Assurance 14 Ignition 16 Spying 17 Cooper 20 Idle 22 Ice.



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

1 Cheroot, eg (5)
4 Newly hatched bird (5)
10 To do with the kidneys (5)
11 Shrill cry (7)
12 Someone who rambles on (7)
13 Entomb (5)
14 Words spoken by an actor directly to the audience (5)
16 Minor road (5)
21 Money, resources (5)
23 Strong wind (7)
25 Excessive amount of (3,4)
26 Vigorous Scottish dance (5)
27 Sheep's babies (5)
28 Join together (5)

DOWN

2 Spell at the crease (7)
3 Unrehearsed reply (2-3)
5 Cause intense repugnance (7)
6 Family emblem (5)
7 Head-dress for a king or queen (5)
8 Custom, practice (5)
9 Large strong draught horse (5)
15 Ruffle (7)
17 Causing great surprise (7)
18 Sheridan ___, actress (5)
19 Restless, fidgety (5)
20 Soaked through (5)
22 Spicy fragrance (5)
24 Musket, eg (5)

The Press and Journal (amalgamating Aberdeen Free Press and Aberdeen Daily Journal). Printed and published by Aberdeen Journals Limited of 1 Marischal Square, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BL. **Telephone:** 01224 690222 **email:** pj.editor@ajl.co.uk **Internet:** www.pressandjournal.co.uk
Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office No. 53,446

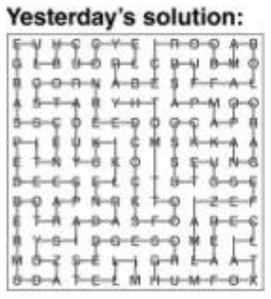
PATHFINDER

Starting from the highlighted letter, move up or down or sideways (but not diagonally), to find the path through the listed words.

N	O	T	S	E	G	R	E	H	D	E	Y	E
L	I	A	I	T	C	A	T	C	A	R	L	S
I	T	C	R	U	O	S	C	O	B	T	L	U
N	E	R	W	N	T	C	O	T	O	A	T	B
R	P	O	T	A	A	H	R	N	E	R	H	G
I	P	E	C	T	M	P	E	A	M	D	T	I
Z	S	N	R	G	O	I	O	N	R	U	O	L
E	M	E	E	L	N	C	U	T	E	T	S	F
N	O	I	O	A	A	H	D	O	R	R	A	D
E	Y	T	N	N	L	K	K	U	T	H	R	R
P	S	C	E	I	F	B	C	B	R	R	O	E
O	T	R	S	Y	E	L	A	L	O	A	W	Y
R	T	O	P	H	R	I	W	E	W	P	L	A

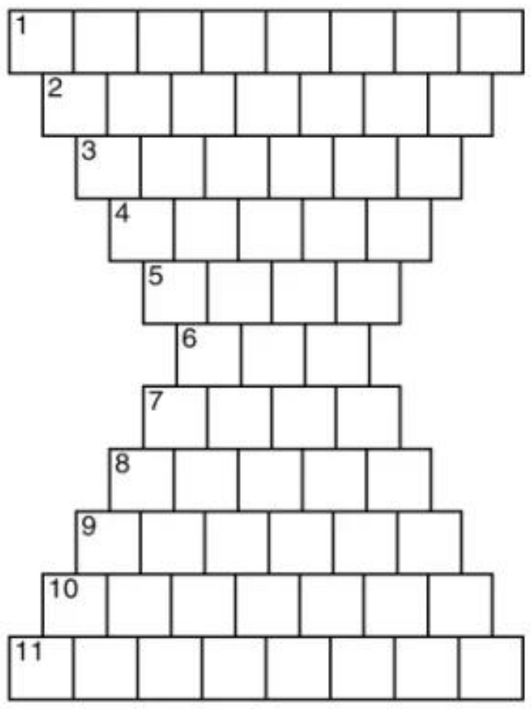
ARROW
BLACK
BULLSEYE
CHALK
CHAMPION
COUNT
DARTBOARD
DARTS
DOUBLE
FINAL
FLIGHT
GREEN
LINE
OCHE
OUTER
PLAYER
PRIZE MONEY
SCORE
SECTION
SPECTATOR
SPORT
TARGET
THROW
TOURNAMENT
TROPHY
WIRE
WRIST ACTION

Yesterday's solution:



BRICK WORK

Enter the answers to the clues in the bricks in the wall. Every word contains the same letters as its neighbour, plus or minus one.



1 Exercise repeatedly to improve a skill (8)
2 Arm muscles (7)
3 Concise summary (6)
4 Specific value (5)
5 Jetty, wharf (4)
6 Anger, wrath (3)
7 Get out of bed (4)
8 Architectural structure which tapers to a point (5)
9 Tool used for gripping (6)
10 Vehicle's aerofoil (7)
11 Full of danger (8)

SOLUTIONS TO ALL TODAY'S PUZZLES WILL APPEAR IN TOMORROW'S EDITION

Yesterday's solution:

PINNACLE
PELICAN
ALPINE
PENAL
PLAN
PAL
PLEA
PLATE
PLANET
PLANTER
PARENTAL

TOTALIZED

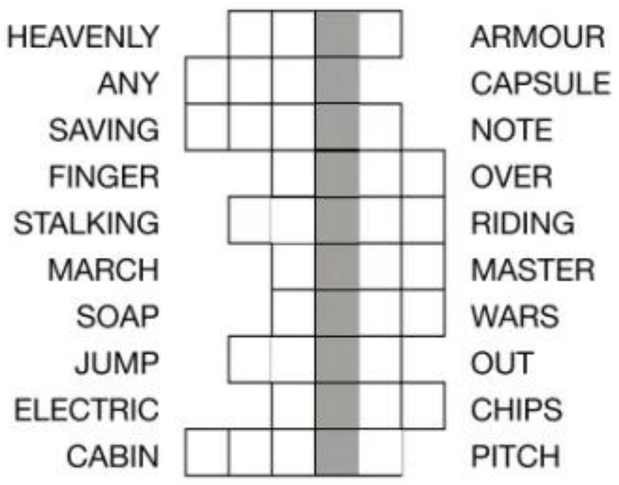
Just follow the instructions from left to right, starting with the number given to reach an answer at the end.

EASY	73	- 25	÷ 12	+ 45	÷ 7	Double it	+ 51	÷ 5	+ 101	÷ 3	ANSWER
MEDIUM	97	+ 299	÷ 11	+ 478	Half of it	- 158	2/3 of it	- 57	× 9	- 75	ANSWER
HARDER	621	+ 4/9 of it	÷ 13	- 59	× 12	+ 1611	Third of it	- 258	÷ 11	+ 3828	ANSWER

Yesterday's solution: Easy: 53, Medium: 507, Hard: 38

MISSING LINK

Fit a word in each row of the grid that connects with the words on either side eg - wishing - well - done. Read down the letters in the shaded squares to spell out a mystery word.

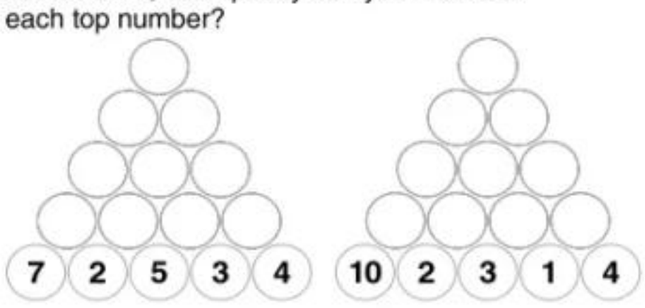


HEAVENLY ARMOUR
ANY CAPSULE
SAVING NOTE
FINGER OVER
STALKING RIDING
MARCH MASTER
SOAP WARS
JUMP OUT
ELECTRIC CHIPS
CABIN PITCH

Yesterday's solution:
The words in order are: TIGHT, SOUR, DAMP, SPIN, BELL, SOLID, CREAM, TOOTH, BRIEF, WOOD spelling HUMILIATED

ADD UP

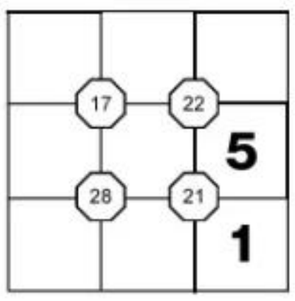
If the number in each circle is the sum of the two below it, how quickly can you work out each top number?



Yesterday's solution:
Left puzzle: 75, Right puzzle: 77

SEKUTA

Enter the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the total in each octagon is equal to the sum of the four surrounding squares.



Yesterday's solution:
598
167
423

HOROSCOPES

Our resident astrologist
MECCA WOODS
gives today's predictions

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Be mindful of making promises, unless you intend to keep them.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
If your schedule or workload is affecting your wellbeing, maybe it's time to make some changes that bring ease into your life.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
You have the kind of charm and popularity that draws people toward you. When it comes to whom you invite into your circle, though, try to choose more thoughtfully.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Don't be afraid to let people see the real you – the good, the bad and the ugly. They're a part of all of us.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)
A collaboration or partnership that you're participating in could blossom into a dream team.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
When it comes to making financial decisions, take time to gather as much information as you can before you proceed.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
You might be the right fit for an opportunity, but is it what's fitting for you?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Be mindful of giving out more time and energy than you can actually afford.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
Who can help you with getting a creative idea or project off the ground and into fruition?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Beware of the trap of perfectionism. You're more than good enough!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Your magnetism is powerful. If there's something you want, you just might get it. Think big!

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
Exercising the power of saying "no" can help you avoid unnecessary problems.

FOR TODAY'S BIRTHDAY
You're unafraid to take up space and make your presence known. You're brave enough to do things that others might only dream of doing. You're just fine being in a class of your own, with your unique aura and many interests. This year may be a period of healing and restoration for you. Whatever has been cleared out of your life over the past year will now allow you to make room for something better.

Notice Board

Personal

SINGLE, GENUINE MALE

Aged 68, in Huntly, hoping to meet a fun loving, friendly, outgoing lady, with a big personality. I am looking to build a meaningful friendship, which could potentially lead to a relationship.

Tel: 07732 424143

To insert your notice in

The Press and Journal

Call 01224 691212

The Press and Journal Classified

Retail Shop

Antiques and Collectables

100 WEIGHT OF OLD COINS FOR SALE

Tel: 01358 720365

Domestic Appliances

WASHING MACHINE

Single inlet, as new, used only half a dozen times.

£75

CONDENSER TUMBLE DRYER

Also used only half a dozen times.

£75

Must be collected before 09/08/2026 as moving house.

Tel: 07301 525576 or 01224 658268

ABERDEEN CITY ADDRESS

To book your advert call 01224 691212

Home Furniture and Furnishings

VICTORIAN OAK ROLL TOP DESK

In good condition.

£450

ABERDEEN CITY NORTH

Tel: 07538 462344

Call 01224 691212

The Press and Journal Classified

Miscellaneous

FREE FOR UPLIFT

SINGLE DIVAN

Tel: 01224 632216

Pets and Accessories

BORDER COLLIE PUPS

From working sheep dogs, Demonstration Team, people friendly, great natured puppies.

£500

Tel: 07888 314412

Sports and Leisure

GENTS MARIN TRAIL BIKE

Carrier and saddle bag, 12 gears, low mileage, good condition.

LADIES BIKE

good condition with stand and carrier, 10 gears, very low mileage.

£25 each

Tel: 01224 732591

One less thing to worry about

We'll deliver your paper right to your door, six days a week!

NEVER MISS IMPORTANT NEWS / NEVER MISS A COMPETITION / NO NEED TO GO OUT IN BAD WEATHER / EASY PAYMENT METHODS

NEWS | SPORT | BUSINESS | LIFESTYLE

The Press and Journal

Call our customer care team on 0800 027 5040 for more info or email newspapersales@ajl.co.uk

Recruitment

Agriculture Vacancies

WE ARE HIRING

JOIN A BUSINESS ON THE MOVE!

BE PART OF OUR NEXT CHAPTER

THE UK'S LEADING MOBILE MILL & MIX SERVICE

TURRIFF, ABERDEENSHIRE

We are expanding and seeking talented people to drive our growth!

We are recruiting:

- MOBILE MILLING OPERATOR
- ENGINEERING SUPERVISOR
- WELDER / FABRICATOR
- ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

All roles are full time and require travel in the UK.

WHY JOIN US?

- Be part of a growing, ambitious, forward thinking business
- Work with industry-leading equipment and technology
- Competitive pay and opportunities for development

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF ON-FARM FEED

APPLY TODAY AND GROW WITH US!

For more information please visit www.harbro.co.uk/careers

Harbro QUALITY LIVESTOCK NUTRITION

Services

Gardening Services

COUNTY LANDSCAPES - ELLON

- Tree topping and felling, fencing & turfing. Gravel & Patio's laid.
- All Building work undertaken.
- All Rubbish removed.

FREE No Obligation Estimates.

Tel: 01358-869227 or 01224-968608

Email: countylandscapes2@gmail.com

WE COVER ABERDEEN AND ABERDEENSHIRE

THE FOUR SEASONS TREE & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

ALL KINDS OF TREE WORK UNDERTAKEN

- Pruning • Lopping • Felling
- Pollarding • Trimming
- Drives and Patios Powerwashed

For a friendly and professional service please call for advice

Covering Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

Tel: 01224 443024 or 07887 436145

To book your advert call 01224 691212

General Services

ABERDEENSHIRE PET CREMATION

"Honouring your pets with compassion and dignity"

- Small, family run business
- Individual cremations
- Open 7 days a week
- Wide range of urns and keepsakes
- Ashes back within three days

tel: 07903 947956

email: info@aberdeenshirepetcremation.co.uk

web: https://aberdeenshirepetcremation.co.uk

NotePad

ITEM:
TEL:

ITEM:
TEL:

ITEM:
TEL:

ITEM:
TEL:

ITEM:
TEL:

The Press and Journal Classified

Services

General Services

J&J TREE SURGEONS

Fully Qualified & Insured

7 Albert Street, Aberdeen AB25 1XX

FELLING • THINNING • LOPPING

PRUNING • CROWN REDUCTION

All waste chipped on site

If a neighbours tree is causing you a problem we can help • No job too big or small

POLLARDING
- Cut back main trunk on suitable trees

FELLING
- Diseased, dangerous or unwanted trees sectioned & removed

PRUNING
- To reduce size, remove crossed, diseased & shaded branches

TOPPING
- To reduce wind or snow damage or clear telephone lines

LOPPING
- Removal of diseased or problem limbs

Call John for a FREE estimate

Mobile: 07480 642 577

Office: 01224 953 142

5 ★ on Google Check out our Website

14 day cooling off period offered if required

Professional Ear Care in Aberdeen

Suffering from blocked or uncomfortable ears?

C&E Ear Wax Removal provides safe, effective treatments using Water Irrigation, Microsuction, and Instrumentation.

We Also Provide:

Home visit appointments

Visits to care homes and sheltered housing

Ear wax removal for children aged 5 and over

Clinic Appointments:

Aberdeen city centre clinic appointments available with free on-site parking.

Run by a Registered Nurse and regulated by Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

To Book Your Appointment:

01224 460997 www.ce-earwaxremoval.co.uk

Home Improvement

Family run slating & building company, serving Aberdeen City & Shire.

ABZ SLATING & BUILDING LTD

FLAT ROOF SPECIALISTS

✓ Roof repairs
✓ Flat Roofs
✓ Slating & tiling
✓ Guttering
✓ Pointing
✓ Storm damage

IS YOUR ROOF READY FOR WINTER?

All work carried out by time served tradesmen

Request a FREE Quotation:

01224 676 871

www.abzslating.co.uk • abzslating@gmail.com

Motors

Cars Wanted

Cars Wanted

We buy Cars, Vans & Motorhomes

Sell your car the safe way for instant payment and safe contactless collection

Just text or phone with your Reg number and mileage for a valuation.

Call Raymond on 07770 884499 or Jordan on 07833 174444

CARS WANTED TO BUY
Tidy low mileage Cars, Vans & Pick ups
01358 711213
www.overton-garage.co.uk
OVERTON GARAGE
ELLON AB41 8EP

Call
01224 691212
The Press and Journal Classified

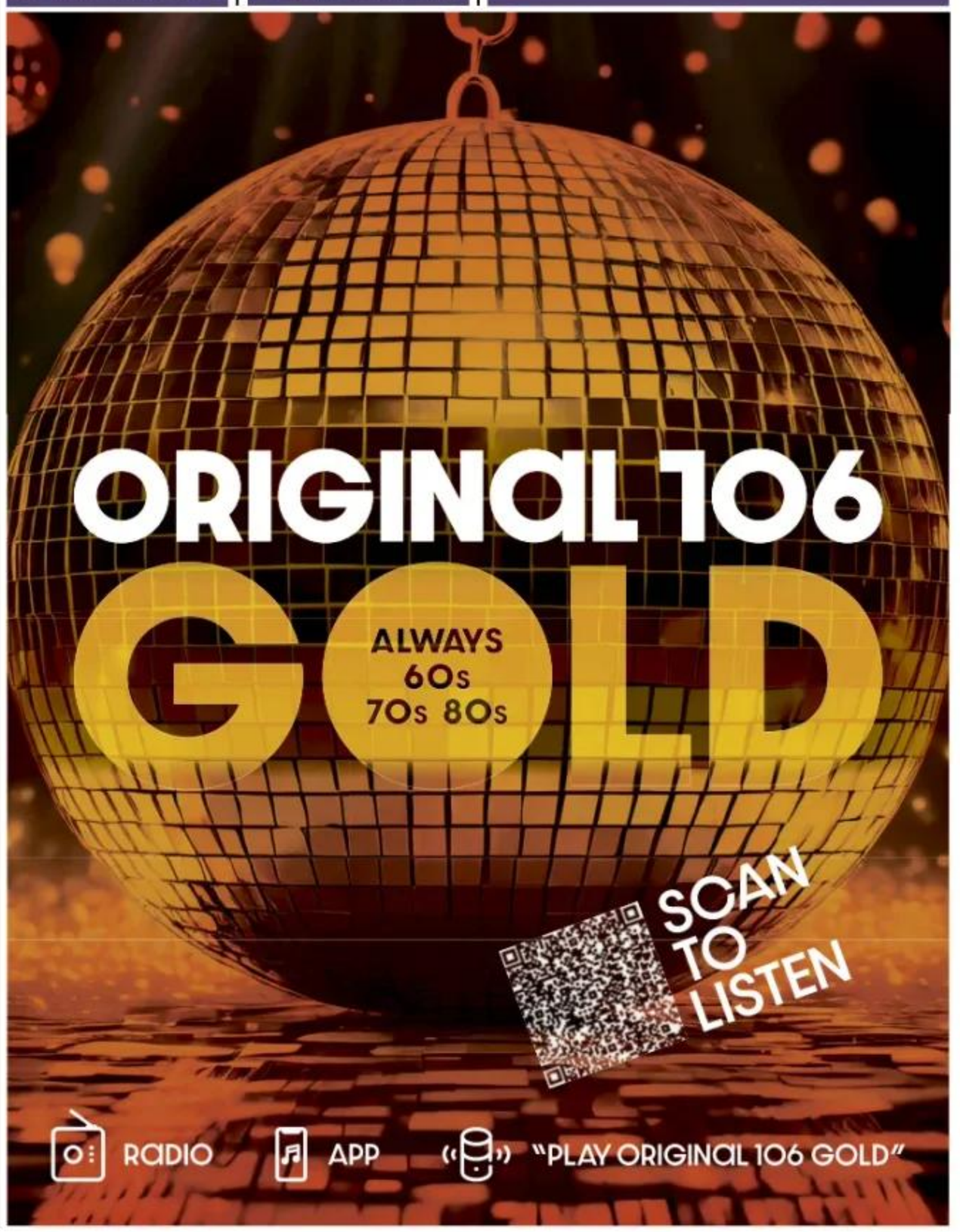
To book your advert in the
Motors Section
Call
01224 691212
The Press and Journal Classified

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF ADVERTISEMENTS

The Publishers retain full discretion as to the contents of "The Press and Journal" and reserve the full right to refuse to publish an advertisement or omit or suspend any advertisement for which an order has been accepted in every case without stating any reasons for doing so.
While every effort will be made to insert an advertisement at the time specified, no guarantee can or will be given for such insertion. The Publishers shall not be liable for any error, omission or inaccuracy in a published advertisement, nor do they accept any liability for any loss which the Advertiser may allege to have been caused by any such error, omission or inaccuracy. No responsibility is taken for any mishap in handling box number replies.
The Publishers reserve the right to alter, modify, suspend or cancel an advertisement at any time without notice.
The Advertiser must obtain and maintain all necessary licenses, permissions and consents which may be required before the date on which an advertisement is set to be inserted.
The Advertiser confirms that any information supplied with the advertisement is accurate, complete, true and not misleading. Furthermore, the Advertiser guarantees that the Advertisement is legal, decent, honest and truthful, and complies with all relevant law and regulation including codes and industry guidance in regards to an advertisement and its products or services.
The Advertiser's personal data will be processed in accordance with our privacy policy which can be found at https://www.dcthomson.co.uk/privacy-policy/
The placing of an order shall be considered as an acceptance of these conditions.

Aberdeen Journals Ltd,
YourAds, P.O. Box 43,
1 Marischal Square, Broad Street,
Aberdeen AB10 1BL

The Press and Journal Classified



MOTORING SERVICES

BANCHORY CAR CENTRE
MOT and Servicing
Book Now on
01330 824848

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION
CALL
01224 691212
EMAIL
yourads@ajl.co.uk

To book your advert in MOTORS call 01224 691212

BRIGHTON

GOING – Good to firm-good in places

2.30 TEENAGE CANCER TRUST HANDICAP (CLASS 6) £8,000 added 3YO plus 5f 60yds Penalty Value £4,187

1 32-665 **Recon Mission 8-1 (IRE) (46) (D)** A W Carroll 10 9 9 — **George Downing 7**
2 566362 **Diomed Spirit 9-4 (39) (D)** C Gordon 6 9 9 — **Charles Bishop 1**
3 821022 **Dreambird Dolly 2-1 (17) (D)** J Gallagher 4 9 8 — **Donagh Murphy (7) 6 B**
4 746727 **Stapleford Park 14-1 (109)** M J Attwater 4 9 8 — **James Glennon (7) 2**
5 -59013 **Washington Heir 3-1 (38) (CD)** A W Carroll 4 9 4 — **William Carson 5**
6 84-607 **Reporter 20-1 (17) (D)** S Hodgson 4 9 4 — **William Carver 3 H**
7 -40858 **Hakin Adraar 25-1 (8)** Martin Dunne 3 9 1 — **Darragh Keenan 4 B**

16 declared.

3.00 JENNINGSBET IN PORTSMOUTH EBF RESTRICTED MAIDEN STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 5) £8,000 added 2YO only 5f 215yds Penalty Value £4,187

1 46 **Little Mester 2-1 (15)** S C Williams 2 9 7 — **Jack Doughty 5**
2 **Red Tail 2-1 (IRE)** R Hannon 2 9 7 — **S C Cronin (5) 2**
3 0 **Cruse On Bye 66-1 (39)** M J Attwater 2 9 4 — **James Glennon (7) 4**
4 35 **Enamored 6-4 (15) (BF)** E A L Dunlop 2 9 2 — **David Probert 3**
5 7 **Napps Way 50-1 (14)** J S Moore 2 8 13 — **Donagh Murphy (7) 1**

16 declared.

3.30 JENNINGSBET UK'S LARGEST INDEPENDENT BOOKMAKER CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS 6) £8,000 added 3YO plus 1m 1f 207yds Penalty Value £4,187

1 769904 **Celebrating Ethel 12-1 (IRE) (2) (J1307) (CD)** A W Carroll 7 9 9 — **Myla Coppins (5) 1**
2 -99265 **Dogged 9-2 (13) (D)** A W Carroll 9 9 9 — **William Carson 4 B**
3 768785 **Fitzmaurice 8-1 (IRE) (14)** A W Carroll 4 9 9 — **Jack Doughty 2**
4 614423 **Myna 2-1 (IRE) (17) (D)** A W Carroll 5 9 9 — **George Downing 6 H**
5 000-04 **Outrace 8-1 (IRE) (13)** R Hannon 6 9 9 — **S C Cronin (5) 3**
6 35-274 **Thundering Breeze 9-4 (IRE) (176)** G & J Moore 5 9 9 — **David Probert 5**

14 declared.

4.00 HARRY BLOOM MEMORIAL 'BRIGHTON BULLET' HANDICAP (CLASS 4) £20,000 added 3YO plus 5f 215yds Penalty Value £10,468

1 72385- **The Quiet Gent 10-1 (IRE) (295) (D)** Brian Toomey 4 10 0 — **David Probert 5**
2 2-1224 **Marcellinus 7-1 (41) (D) (BF)** Tom Dascombe 3 9 13 — **Donagh Murphy (7) 8**
3 298-11 **Tenbob Tommy 7-1 (116) (J556) (D)** Miss S West 5 9 12 — **Charles Bishop 4**
4 313312 **Lequinto 11-2 (IRE) (18) (D)** A W Carroll 9 9 12 — **William Carson 7**
5 32226- **Bona Fortuna 10-1 (IRE) (309) (CD)** M Appleby 5 9 11 — **Darragh Keenan 1**
6 313721 **Grey Horizon 5-1 (23) (CD)** S Dixon 3 9 9 — **Christian Howarth (3) 6 V**
7 212935 **Cayman Tai 10-1 (IRE) (13)** R Hannon 4 9 8 — **S C Cronin (5) 9**
8 915052 **U S S Charleston 11-2 (8)** Lemos Souza 3 9 6 — **Connor Planas 3**
9 00-012 **Ancient Times 7-1 (20) (D)** Harry Eustace 8 9 3 — **Pierre-Louis Jamin 10**
10 466471 **Duskaura 10-1 (IRE) (13) (D)** A W Carroll 3 9 1 — **Myla Coppins (5) 2**

16 declared.

4.30 BET IN OVER 200 SHOPS NATIONWIDE WITH JENNINGSBET HANDICAP (CLASS 6) £8,000 added 3YO plus 5f 215yds Penalty Value £4,187

1 365231 **Dragon God 3-1 (5)** A W Carroll 4 9 12 (5ex) — **Charles Bishop 4**
2 543643 **Mart 11-2 (5) (CD)** D Donovan 5 9 9 — **Darragh Keenan 1**
3 452-30 **Rajeteriat 25-1 (46)** C Gordon 4 9 6 — **Josephine Gordon 5**
4 622415 **Big Time Rascal 5-1 (31) (CD)** S Hodgson 5 9 6 — **Benoit D L Sayette 6**
5 997091 **Manhattan Chute 7-2 (IRE) (24) (D)** J & S Best 4 9 6 — **Finley Marsh 7**
6 33-061 **Bated Breeze 7-2 (IRE) (31) (CD)** G & J Moore 5 9 3 — **David Probert 2**
7 75-026 **Kodi K 10-1 (IRE) (38)** J Gallagher 3 8 11 — **Joe Leavy 3**

16 declared.

5.00 BET RESPONSIBLY WITH JENNINGSBET HANDICAP (CLASS 6) £8,000 added 3YO only 6f 210yds Penalty Value £4,187

1 75867 **King Cherry 12-1 (IRE) (2)** S C Williams 3 9 9 — **Jack Doughty 3**
2 556-0 **Solar Phoenix 10-1 (IRE) (55)** R A Teal 3 9 8 — **D C Costello 6 B**
3 4-6773 **Pennine Way 2-1 (17)** J Channon 3 9 5 — **George Bass 2**
4 354113 **Shes Got The Blues 5-2 (IRE) (41) (CD)** A W Carroll 3 9 4 — **Myla Coppins (5) 5**
5 324664 **Superstorm 5-1 (23)** C Fellowes 3 8 13 — **Mikkel Mortensen (5) 7 V**
6 -60735 **Arvana Belle 6-1 (IRE) (13) (C)** B R Millman 3 8 9 — **David Probert 4 B**
7 00-086 **Snow Day 20-1 (38)** A W Carroll 3 8 9 — **Molly Gunn (5) 1**

16 declared.

5.30 AL NUJAIFI RACING SERIES FILLIES (CLASS " SHOWCASE=) £6,000 added 3YO plus 1m Penalty Value £3,092

1 5/13-1 **Fareedhat El Izz (A) 4-6 (FR) (41) (D)** Mrs W Hassall 6 9 7 — **Charles Bishop 3 H**
2 2-2621 **Victoria (A) 7-1 (22)** Mrs W Hassall 6 9 7 — **Jude Fernandes 5**
3 499-99 **Anafah (A) 7-1 (FR) (153)** P Collington 7 9 4 — **D C Costello 2**
4 5-5325 **Pharitz Lahia (A) 10-1 (32)** Mrs B Aashour 6 9 4 — **George Bass 4**
5 442 **Ghayah (A) 5-1 (FR) (22)** P Collington 4 9 3 — **Darragh Keenan 1 B**

5 declared.

MUSSELBURGH

GOING – Good

1.50 CHAMPAGNE POMMERY BRUT ROSE HANDICAP (CLASS 6) £7,000 added 4YO plus 1m 208yds Penalty Value £3,664

1 724922 **Falcon Nine 5-2 (11) (CD)** I Jardine 6 9 9 — **K Shoemark 7 B**
2 643821 **Samra Star 3-1 (IRE) (11) (D)** Miss L A Perratt 5 9 9 (5ex) — **P Mulrennan 1 H**
3 042268 **Toy Soldier 8-1 (IRE) (18) (C)** L Russell & M Scudamore 4 9 6 — **Lexie Clarkson (7) 5 B**
4 211P92 **Gemini Man 10-3 (IRE) (7) (J90) (C) (BF) (D)** I Jardine 8 9 4 — **Jack Nicholls (3) 4**
5 596805 **Miners Gamble 7-1 (IRE) (13) (J524) (CD)** B Ellison 5 9 3 — **L Morris 6**
6 193418 **Approaching Dawn 8-1 (IRE) (11) (C)** J S Goldie 6 9 2 — **Lauren Young (5) 3**
7 0/40-6 **Liberty Looming 33-1 (IRE) (7) (J88)** A Nicol 5 8 10 — **J P Sullivan 2**

14 declared.

2.20 BRITISH STALLION STUDS EBF NOVICE STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 2) £25,000 added 2YO only 5f 1yd Penalty Value £12,885

1 11 **Barnaby Rudge 2-1 (IRE) (41) (D)** J R Fanshawe 2 9 12 — **Daniel Muscutt 3 H**
2 2 **Minster Man 7-2 (IRE) (15)** R M H Cowell 2 9 4 — **P Mulrennan 5**
3 46 **My Mate Fitz 16-1 (IRE) (27)** K A Ryan 2 9 4 — **T Eaves 4**
4 **Sod Hall Lane 10-1 (IRE)** D Carroll 2 9 4 — **Zak Wheatley 1**
5 42 **Faith In Florence 6-4 (IRE) (21) (BF)** E Walker 2 8 13 — **K Shoemark 2**

14 declared.

2.50 COPPER BLOSSOM LADIES DAY NURSERY SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £15,000 added 2YO only 7f 15yds Penalty Value £7,851

1 100 **Extended Order 7-1 (21)** Eve Johnson Houghton 2 9 9 — **Daniel Muscutt 3**
2 69722 **Bigalo 7-4 (7) (BF)** Roger Fell 2 9 3 — **Joanna Mason 1**
3 264201 **Bluestone Lady 11-4 (IRE) (7) (CD)** Phillip Makin 2 9 3 (6ex) — **Jack Nicholls (3) 4 B**
4 866123 **Amantha 11-2 (IRE) (7) (CD)** B Ellison 2 8 12 — **L Morris 2**
5 363 **Bella Lucia 4-1 (15)** G Tutty 2 8 11 — **William Pyle 5**

12 declared.

3.20 CHAMPAGNE POMMERY CUVEE LOUISE GOLD CUP HANDICAP (CLASS 4) £15,000 added 3YO plus 7f 15yds Penalty Value £7,851

1 -32441 **Jonny Concrete 5-1 (IRE) (14) (CD)** I Jardine 5 9 12 — **Jack Nicholls (3) 9**
2 -70400 **Gweedore 33-1 (32) (CD)** K Scott 9 9 11 — **T Eaves 3 B**
3 -57677 **Misunderstood 16-1 (FR) (14) (D)** D O'Meara 4 9 11 — **D Tudhope 6 H**
4 3-11 **Eagle Bay 5-4 (41) (D)** H Bethell 3 9 10 — **S D Bowen 11**
5 217-10 **Passing Thought 6-1 (49) (D)** E Walker 3 9 10 — **K Shoemark 7**
6 35-820 **Vixey 8-1 (10) (D)** S G West 6 9 10 — **Aiden Brookes 4**
7 1-2674 **Augustus Gloop 10-1 (21)** J R Fanshawe 3 9 7 — **Daniel Muscutt 5**
8 9-0387 **One Night Thunder 33-1 (13) (D)** G Tutty 6 9 6 — **D McSweeney 10 H**
9 710015 **Native Honey 14-1 (IRE) (11) (D)** J S Goldie 4 9 3 — **P Mulrennan 2**
10 2-1637 **Zarvali 25-1 (IRE) (28) (D)** Roger Fell 3 9 3 — **Joanna Mason 8**
11 313420 **Ashen 20-1 (IRE) (14) (D)** J S Goldie 4 8 12 — **Lauren Young (5) 1**

12 declared.

3.50 CHAMPAGNE POMMERY BRUT ROYAL HANDICAP (CLASS 4) £15,000 added 3YO plus 5f 1yd Penalty Value £7,851

1 37-733 **Jer Batt 10-3 (IRE) (7) (CD)** T D Barron 6 10 0 — **William Pyle 4**
2 525463 **Tiva 13-2 (IRE) (6) (D)** D O'Meara 4 9 11 — **D Tudhope 6 V**
3 120532 **Montezuma 11-4 (7) (CD) (BF)** J S Goldie 4 9 10 — **P Mulrennan 5 H**
4 217-47 **Big Fun 15-2 (IRE) (68) (CD)** K A Ryan 3 9 9 — **T Eaves 1**
5 272222 **Woohoo 2-1 (IRE) (10) (CD)** J S Goldie 5 9 2 — **Lauren Young (5) 3**
6 549865 **Ecclefechan 20-1 (21)** J Ryan 3 8 8 — **L Morris 2**

14 declared.

4.24 BRODIE HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £10,000 added 3YO plus 1m 5f Penalty Value £5,234

1 44-311 **Roc De Fer 4-7 (IRE) (7)** Sir Mark Prescott 3 10 1 (12ex) — **L Morris 5**
2 -96254 **Simple Star 14-1 (IRE) (7) (J75) (C)** Gary Rutherford 8 9 13 — **Jack Nicholls (3) 3**
3 -03253 **Sure And Stedfast 13-2 (IRE) (27)** Ewan Whillans 4 9 13 — **Greg Fairley 2**
4 1-1259 **Tommy's Promise 16-1 (126) (J469)** J Ryan 5 9 11 — **T Eaves 6**
5 48-713 **Alnayef 16-1 (IRE) (22) (D) (BF)** J S Goldie 5 9 10 — **P Mulrennan 7**
6 45-415 **Willow Wood 12-1 (IRE) (20)** E Walker 3 9 6 — **K Shoemark 1**
7 8742 **Much 15-2 (7)** J R Fanshawe 3 9 4 — **Daniel Muscutt 4**

14 declared.

4.54 MUIRHALL ENERGY BREATH OF FRESH ENERGY HANDICAP (CLASS 6) £7,000 added 4YO plus 7f 15yds Penalty Value £3,664

1 411374 **Filey Beach 6-1 (IRE) (13) (CD)** Mrs R Carr 5 9 9 — **J P Sullivan 1**
2 13-708 **Keep Me Stable 20-1 (IRE) (18) (CD)** Miss L A Perratt 6 9 8 — **D McSweeney 3**
3 077059 **Maui Breeze 12-1 (34)** W Storey 4 9 3 — **Greg Fairley 2**
4 032461 **Monhammer 7-4 (7) (CD)** Miss L A Perratt 8 9 2 (4ex) — **P Mulrennan 4**
5 2-6934 **Chloe's Courage 5-1 (10) (D)** J Ryan 4 9 1 — **L Morris 6**
6 662342 **Misemerald 2-1 (IRE) (7) (D)** P A Kirby 5 8 10 — **Aiden Brookes 5**

12 declared.

NEWMARKET

GOING – Good to firm

5.27 ZYN FRONTRUNNER EBF NEWCOMERS' 'CONFINED' MAIDEN STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 3) £13,000 added 2YO only 7f Penalty Value £6,700

1 **Desert Castle 13-8** C Appleby 2 9 7 — **Billy Loughnane 1**
2 **Farasan 11-4** J & T Gosden 2 9 7 — **Oisin Murphy 3**
3 **Hierax 9-2** W J Haggas 2 9 7 — **Cieren Fallon 2**
4 **My Boy 12-1 (IRE)** A M Balding 2 9 7 — **Jason Watson 7**
5 **Netherstream 16-1** Jane Chapple-Hyam 2 9 7 — **D Egan 6**
6 **Nidal 50-1** S C Williams 2 9 7 — **Marco Ghiani 5**
7 **Re Shardana 100-1 (GER)** Hayley Burton 2 9 7 — **George Wood 4**
8 **Sommood 5-1** S & E Crisford 2 9 7 — **James Doyle 8**

19 declared.

6.02 ZYN POLE POSITION MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES (GBB/GBBPLUS RACE) (CLASS 3) £12,000 added 2YO only 1m Penalty Value £6,185

1 7 **Bint Palace Pier 10-1 (IRE) (14)** R Hughes 2 9 2 — **D Egan 3**
2 **Lily Pink 10-1** C Johnston 2 9 2 — **Rob Hornby 4**
3 **Oh Sweet Adare 4-6 (IRE)** C Appleby 2 9 2 — **Billy Loughnane 2**
4 62 **Zarakova 9-4 (22) (BF)** A M Balding 2 9 2 — **Oisin Murphy 1**

20 declared.

6.37 CARLING NOVICE STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 4) £10,000 added 2YO only 6f Penalty Value £5,234

1 12 **Nabati 8-13 (IRE) (21) (D) (BF)** C Appleby 2 9 11 — **Billy Loughnane 1**
2 1 **Tawakal 11-4 (FR) (21) (D)** S & E Crisford 2 9 11 — **James Doyle 5**
3 **Al Widyan 5-1** A M Balding 2 9 4 — **Oisin Murphy 3**
4 **Roll Up Raymond 50-1** Gihan Arnolda 2 9 4 — **George Wood 4**
5 87 **The Resdev Rocket 25-1 (IRE) (14)** M & D Easterby 2 9 4 — **Saffie Osborne 2**

20 declared.

7.12 MOLSON COORS BEVERAGE COMPANY HANDICAP (CLASS 4) £12,500 added 3YO plus 6f Penalty Value £6,542

1 -65422 **Havana Blue 11-4 (14) (C) (BF)** Miss J A Camacho 6 10 0 — **James Doyle 10**
2 61495- **Lil Brother 14-1 (249)** Michael Keady 3 9 12 — **K S McHugh (7) 8**
3 329-06 **Aspull 20-1 (35)** P S McEntee 4 9 9 — **Grace McEntee 1**
4 623211 **Spring Bloom 13-8 (7) (CD)** J Butler 9 9 9 (4ex) — **N Callan 7**
5 513200 **Fiscal Policy 33-1 (IRE) (14) (D)** Mrs R Carr 7 9 8 — **Billy Loughnane 5**
6 361113 **Fenlander 4-1 (20) (D)** Mrs P Sly 5 9 8 — **Rob Hornby 6**
7 4-7850 **Fifty Nifty 16-1 (IRE) (11) (C)** Martin Dunne 5 9 6 — **Cieren Fallon 9**
8 2172-0 **Royal Accord 33-1 (14) (CD)** P W Chapple-Hyam 4 9 6 — **Harry Davies 3**
9 100505 **The Caltonian 12-1 (18) (D)** Miss L A Perratt 7 9 3 — **Oisin Murphy 2 B**
10 814840 **Akabusi 16-1 (21) (D)** M Murphy 3 9 2 — **Saffie Osborne 4 B**

20 declared.

7.47 REKORDERLIG FILLIES' HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £10,000 added 3YO plus 7f Penalty Value £5,154

1 8-4134 **Hilltop 3-1 (16) (D)** D & C Kubler 5 10 2 — **Saffie Osborne 4**
2 252441 **Areti 11-4 (9) (D)** Oliver Cole 3 9 10 — **Billy Loughnane 7**
3 31-63 **Rogue Citation 10-3 (IRE) (30)** E Bethell 3 9 7 — **Harry Davies 2**
4 -02563 **Albeseeingyer 5-1 (53) (CD)** Steph Hollinshead 7 9 7 — **D Egan 6**
5 121148 **Lexington Express 16-1 (IRE) (34)** M Botti 3 9 7 — **Marco Ghiani 5**
6 2-2419 **Show Me Gold 16-1 (21) (D)** Tom Dascombe 3 9 2 — **William Cox 3**
7 435- **Melodical 7-1 (302)** E Walker 3 8 11 — **Oisin Murphy 1**

19 declared.

8.22 ASPALL HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £10,000 added 3YO plus 1m 2f Penalty Value £5,154

1 534-11 **Shimmering Sands 10-11 (39) (D)** M & D Easterby 7 9 12 — **Oisin Murphy 1**
2 -10431 **Lucky Hero 6-4 (IRE) (9) (D)** D O'Meara 3 9 4 — **Billy Loughnane 2**
3 -43632 **Blue Noon 11-2 (IRE) (14)** R Hannon 3 9 4 — **P J Dobbs 3**

20 declared.

HAYDOCK

GOING – Good

5.43 ZYN POLE POSITION EBF NOVICE STAKES (GBB/GBBPLUS RACE) (CLASS 3) £13,000 added 3YO plus 1m 2f 42yds Penalty Value £7,020

1 41 **Ancestor 4-6 (30) (D)** W J Haggas 3 9 11 — **Tom Marquand 3**
2 5-5 **Golden Caviar 8-1 (IRE) (8)** E A L Dunlop 3 9 4 — **H Crouch 1**
3 43 **Tropical Sands 7-4 (57)** E Walker 3 8 13 — **C Lee 2**

17 declared.

6.18 ZYN IN THE MOMENT AMATEUR JOCKEYS' HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £8,500 added 4YO plus 1m 6f Penalty Value £4,222

1 66-681 **Dream Harder 7-2 (IRE) (8)** D M Loughnane 7 11 3 (4ex) — **Mr Jack Loughnane (7) 5**
2 128402 **Fast Fred 4-1 (27) (J849) (BF)** Phillip Makin 6 11 2 — **Miss Pippa Brown (3) 8**
3 137532 **Caph Star 4-1 (15)** M G Rimell 7 11 1 — **Mr Harry Rimell (7) 2**
4 213310 **Clansman 16-1 (41) (D)** L Bailey 8 10 12 — **Miss Amy Collier 3**
5 -10533 **Made All 6-1 (23) (J20) (BF)** S England 5 10 11 — **Miss Rebecca Hitchen (5) 7**
6 3-0622 **Arrange 4-1 (IRE) (7) (C) (D)** M Todhunter 8 10 10 — **Mr Eireann Cagney 6**
7 677-76 **Edward Sexton 14-1 (IRE) (109) (J463) (D)** G & J Moore 6 10 6 — **Mr D H Dunsdon 1**
8 322624 **Havachoc 12-1 (31) (BF)** P Morris 4 9 13 — **Mr Lucas Murphy (5) 4**

17 declared.

6.53 ZYN PACESETTER CUP NURSERY (CLASS 3) £15,000 added 2YO only 5f Penalty Value £7,731

1 106 **God Given Talent 2-1 (IRE) (21)** W J Haggas 2 9 9 — **Tom Marquand 5**
2 220 **Dance A Jig 4-1 (51)** R M Beckett 2 9 9 — **H Crouch 4**
3 62120 **Jaijai 14-1 (7) (D)** R Hannon 2 9 5 — **S M Levey 3**
4 142318 **Undercover Affair 8-1 (IRE) (9) (D)** P D Evans 2 9 3 — **Ryan Kavanagh (3) 6**
5 18 **Rotelle 13-2 (13) (D)** C Fellowes 2 8 13 — **Paddy Bradley 1**
6 262 **Casino Star 5-2 (IRE) (27)** K R Burke 2 8 12 — **C Lee 2**

17 declared.

7.28 ZYN FRONTRUNNER FINISH EBF MAIDEN STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 3) £13,000 added 2YO only 7f 212yds Penalty Value £7,020

1 6 **Arthurian 2-1 (21)** A M Balding 2 9 7 — **Callum Hutchinson 2**
2 **Burning Up 11-4** K R Burke 2 9 7 — **C Lee 4**
3 **Golden Falcon 3-1 (IRE)** S bin Suroor 2 9 7 — **Paddy Bradley 3**
4 **King Kenny 8-1 (IRE)** A Brittain 2 9 7 — **Harry Russell 6**
5 06 **Parry Green 150-1 (13)** L Williamson 2 9 7 — **Sean Kirrane 1**
6 **Skylar 5-1 (GER)** C Johnston 2 9 7 — **H Crouch 5**

14 declared.

8.03 ZYN STRONG STRIDE EBF FILLIES' RESTRICTED NOVICE STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 3) £13,000 added 2YO only 6f 212yds Penalty Value £7,020

1 1 **Syndicale 11-4 (IRE) (17) (D)** K R Burke 2 9 6 — **C Lee 7**
2 **Remember The Show 10-1** E Walker 2 9 2 — **Tom Marquand 1**
3 **Scrappetalene 10-1** C Johnston 2 9 2 — **Jason Hart 6**
4 **Sea Angie Run 14-1** Tom Clover 2 9 2 — **J Mitchell 3**
5 6 **Expensive Luxury 25-1 (21)** K R Burke 2 8 13 — **S M Levey 5**
6 5 **Freshwater 16-1 (16) (BF)** D O'Meara 2 8 13 — **Mark Winn 9**
7 2 **Silver Sovereign 5-2 (17)** C G Cox 2 8 13 — **H Crouch 8**
8 7 **Tradittion 33-1 (16)** T D Easterby 2 8 13 — **Sean Kirrane 2**
9 324 **Aphra Behn 11-4 (25) (BF)** R M Beckett 2 8 10 — **Rhys Clutterbuck 4**

12 declared.

8.38 FIND YOUR ZYN MOMENT STRIDE HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £8,500 added 4YO plus 6f 212yds Penalty Value £4,449

1 U-3311 **Distinct Spirit 3-1 (6) (D)** D & C Kubler 6 10 0 (5ex) — **Ebrahim Nader 5**
2 321212 **Farandaway 13-2 (IRE) (15) (D)** Grant Tuer 4 9 9 — **Oliver Stammers 4**
3 -04485 **Montezin 14-1 (13)** A Brittain 4 9 8 — **Harry Russell 2**
4 584106 **Criminal Shore 20-1 (IRE) (19)** D O'Meara 4 9 8 — **Mark Winn 10 V**
5 89-633 **Raffles Angel 8-1 (15) (C)** Jack Jones 5 9 7 — **Jason Hart 8**
6 23-676 **Potomac River 20-1 (29)** T Kent 4 9 6 — **J Mitchell 11**
7 911714 **Evocative Spark 14-1 (IRE) (69) (D) (BF)** J Riches 7 9 6 — **Sean Kirrane 3 V**
8 21-641 **Tokyo Joe 7-2 (24) (D)** E Walker 4 9 5 — **Tom Marquand 7**
9 041312 **Invincible Ruby 6-1 (IRE) (14) (D)** I Jardine 4 9 3 — **H Crouch 9**
10 6-9316 **Magic Music 16-1 (42) (D) (BF)** Steph Hollinshead 4 9 2 — **C Lee 1**
11 666852 **Bajan Bandit 10-1 (31) (CD)** P Morris 6 8 9 — **Ryan Kavanagh (3) 6 V**

12 declared.

THIRSK

GOING – Good-good to firm in places

2.10 GORACING.CO.UK FUTURE STARS APPRENTICE CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS 6) £6,000 added 3YO plus 6f Penalty Value £3,140

1 /8-766 **Drish Samphire 16-1 (IRE) (7)** L A Mullaney 4 9 9 — **C Horgan 1**
2 054337 **Golden Prosperity 7-1 (IRE) (9) (CD)** T Coyle & K Wood 7 9 9 — **Jake Dickson (3) 3**
3 946604 **Hurstwood 7-1 (20) (D)** P D Niven 9 9 9 — **Ethan Tindall 6**
4 272954 **Mister Sky Blue 6-1 (IRE) (16) (D)** G Tutty 4 9 9 — **C J Whiteley 8**
5 -76785 **Mrs Trump 9-2 (IRE) (9) (CD) (BF)** P T Midgley 6 9 9 — **Liam Wright 4**
6 026848 **Newyorkstateofmind 25-1 (32) (D)** Mrs R Carr 9 9 9 — **Taryn Langley 9 B**
7 587742 **Tarlac 10-3 (IRE) (22) (D)** K Scott 4 9 9 — **Olivia Haines (3) 5**
8 -86090 **Thank The Lord 16-1 (105) (D)** W G Harrison 7 9 9 — **Shay Farmer 2 V**
9 326552 **Tickets 7-2 (42) (D) (BF)** P Neville 7 9 9 — **Harry Vigors (3) 7**

20 declared.

2.40 BOB VICKERY MEMORIAL RESTRICTED MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES (GBB RACE) (CLASS 4) £10,000 added 2YO only 5f Penalty Value £5,400

1 **Estella Havisham 7-2 (IRE)** K R Burke 2 9 2 — **S H James 8**
2 3 **Mollisha 11-2 (IRE) (13)** B Ellison 2 9 2 — **Ben Robinson 6**
3 4322 **My Maria 4-1 (IRE) (9)** A Watson 2 9 2 — **Connor Beasley 10**
4 024 **Shaniko 33-1 (48)** Craig Lidster 2 9 2 — **Kaiya Fraser 12 H**
5 436 **Time Glory 8-1 (IRE) (30)** K A Ryan 2 9 2 — **K Stott 3**
6 52 **Inglewood 8-1 (30)** Miss J A Camacho 2 8 13 — **Ryan Sexton 2**
7 3 **Prosperity Angel 16-1 (23)** B Haslam 2 8 13 — **A Mullen 4**
8 **Takeaselfie 10-1 (IRE)** R A Fahey 2 8 13 — **Warren Fentiman (3) 5**
9 4335 **Travellers Girl 12-1 (IRE) (14)** Roger Fell 2 8 13 — **D J Orr 9**
10 5 **Veruca Salt 16-1 (21)** J R Fanshawe 2 8 13 — **Jonny Peate 7**
11 **Basmaah 50-1 (IRE)** B Haslam 2 8 10 — **Harry Vigors (5) 13**
12 45 **Dorothea Hope 12-1 (IRE) (10) (BF)** T D Easterby 2 8 10 — **D Fentiman 1**
13 3 **Purrista 14-1 (10)** G Tutty 2 8 10 — **Ashley Lewis (3) 11**

19 declared.

3.10 PETER BELL MEMORIAL FILLIES' NURSERY (CLASS 5) £7,500 added 2YO only 7f Penalty Value £3,926

1 6581 **Bymiddaytomorrow 2-1 (IRE) (11) (D)** E Walker 2 10 1 (6ex) — **Ashley Lewis (3) 1**
2 8721 **Gerry's Darling 7-4 (7) (D)** Roger Fell 2 9 8 (6ex) — **K Stott 5**
3 32 **Love Tanya 9-2 (IRE) (14)** E Bethell 2 9 6 — **O J Orr 7**
4 533 **Consultation (42)** J R Fanshawe 2 9 5 — **Non Runner 6**
5 570 **Bonjour Belle 10-1 (19)** B Ellison 2 8 6 — **Tom Kiely-Marshall (5) 4**
6 36585 **Priscilla's Hope 14-1 (31)** P J McBride 2 8 6 — **A Mullen 3**
7 97433 **Spirit Of Mary 10-1 (14)** B Haslam 2 8 2 — **Ethan Tindall (5) 2**

16 declared.

3.40 LADIES' DAY SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER - BOOK NOW HANDICAP (CLASS 5) £7,500 added 3YO plus 5f Penalty Value £3,926

1 351414 **J Street 9-4 (13) (D)** M & D Easterby 4 9 9 — **Billy Garritty 1**
2 4-3112 **Military Girl 2-1 (IRE) (52) (CD) (BF)** M Dods 4 9 8 — **Connor Beasley 3**
3 473211 **Azuinthejungle 5-2 (10) (D)** N Tinkler 4 9 8 (5ex) — **Alex Jary (3) 5**
4 006790 **Vince L'Amour 25-1 (IRE) (13) (D)** T D Easterby 5 9 7 — **D Allan 6 B**
5 54-20 **Qila 12-1 (59)** B Ellison 3 9 4 — **Ben Robinson 2**
6 831506 **Glory Fighter 10-1 (57) (CD)** P T Midgley 10 9 4 — **D Nolan 4**

19 declared.

4.10 WILLIAM HILL, MARKET PLACE, THIRSK HANDICAP (GBBPLUS RACE) (CLASS 3) £18,000 added 4YO plus 1m 4f 8yds Penalty Value £9,720

1 10-722 **Master Vintner 11-8 (IRE) (36) (D) (BF)** R M Beckett 4 9 9 — **Edward Greatrex 2 B**
2 0-7420 **Majestic 8-1 (IRE) (28) (J1602)** J Channon 8 9 6 — **Connor Beasley 5**
3 0-8663 **Wahdan 6-1 (IRE) (13)** T D Easterby 5 9 5 — **D Allan 4**
4 /5418- **Sudu 4-1 (373) (D)** R Varian 4 9 3 — **Ray Dawson 1 H**
5 31-443 **Wanderlust 9-2 (FR) (43)** I Jardine 4 9 1 — **A Mullen 3**
6 78/429 **Golden West 14-1 (28)** T D Easterby 5 8 10 — **D Fentiman 6**

17 declared.

4.40 COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT HERE NEXT FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST HANDICAP (CLASS 6) £6,000 added 3YO only 6f Penalty Value £3,140

1 201932 **Maximum Velocity 4-1 (IRE) (16)** N Tinkler 3 9 9 — **Faye McManoman 7**
2 -04445 **Yellow Diamonds 4-1 (IRE) (22)** Miss J A Camacho 3 9 8 — **Ryan Sexton 10**
3 4-8222 **Great Profit 10-3 (IRE) (11)** W G Harrison 3 9 7 — **Barry McHugh 5**
4 -28376 **Overbudget 6-1 (IRE) (42)** M Appleby 3 9 7 — **A Mullen 2**
5 2-6567 **Real Jack 14-1 (48)** M Dods 3 9 6 — **Connor Beasley 8**
6 1-8035 **Soul Warrior 20-1 (IRE) (18) (D)** N Tinkler 3 9 2 — **Alex Jary (3) 11**
7 256-67 **Mare Of London 14-1 (14)** M Walford 3 9 1 — **S H James 9**
8 0-9306 **Hellcat 25-1 (31)** R Burdon 3 8 12 — **Alexandra Egan (7) 4**
9 201244 **Lope Y Linda 10-1 (16)** T D Easterby 3 8 12 — **D Allan 6**
10 0-1435 **Liquid Cooled 12-1 (IRE) (21) (D)** B Haslam 3 8 10 — **Harry Vigors (5) 1**
11 54757 **Agric Ranger 14-1 (15)** T D Easterby 3 8 10 — **D Fentiman 3**

20 declared.

TODAY'S SELECTIONS

BRIGHTON: 2.30 Diomed Spirit, 3.00 Red Tail, 3.30 Myna, 4.00 Grey Horizon, 4.30 Bated Breeze, 5.00 Shes Got The Blues.
HAYDOCK: 5.43 Ancestor, 6.18 Caph Star, 6.53 Casino Star, 7.28 Burning Up, 8.03 Silver Sovereign, 8.38 Raffles Angel.
MUSSELBURGH: 1.50 Falcon Nine, 2.20 BARNABY RUDGE (NAP), 2.50 Amantha, 3.20 Eagle Bay, 3.50 Jer Batt, 4.24 Alnayef, 4.54 Filey Beach.
NEWMARKET: 5.27 Hierax, 6.02 Zarakova, 6.37 Nabati, 7.12 Fenlander, 7.47 Hilltop, 8.22 Shimmering Sands.
THIRSK: 2.10 Tarlac, 2.40 Mollisha, 3.10 Love Tanya, 3.40 Military Girl, 4.10 Master Vintner, 4.40 Lope Y Linda.
DOUBLE: Barnaby Rudge and Nabati.

RACING RETURNS

BRIGHTON

2.38 — 1 Valadero (IRE) Liam Wright 17-2; 2 Spirited Dancer 9-2; 3 River Wharfe 8-11 Fav. 8 ran. 3/4, hd. Brian Toorney. Tote Win: £9.50; Places: £2.10, £1.50, £1.10; Tote Exacta: £26.30; Tote Trifecta: £83.10; CSF: £47.59;

3.13 — 1 The Monkey King Rhys Clutterbuck Evens Fav; 2 Foscarini (IRE) 3-1; 3 Regalism (IRE) 5-2. 5 ran. 1 3/4, 1 3/4. R M Beckett. Tote Win: £2.00; Places: £1.20, £1.80; Tote Exacta: £4.00; Tote Trifecta: £6.00; CSF: £4.38;

3.50 — 1 Gone Rogue (IRE) T P Queally 6-5 Fav; 2 Dandy G Boy (IRE) 18-1; 3 Boubyan (IRE) 4-1. 6 ran. 1/2, 5 1/2. G & J Moore. Tote Win: £2.20; Places: £1.30, £6.60; Tote Exacta: £24.20; Tote Trifecta: £83.50; CSF: £24.76;

4.25 — 1 Tai Hang Pegasus (USA) Paddy Bradley 9-2; 2 Nibras Gold (IRE) 11-4; 3 Sarangpur (IRE) 10-11 Fav. 5 ran. 2 3/4, 1. C Fellowes. Tote Win: £7.20; Places: £2.40, £1.60; Tote Exacta: £19.20; Tote Trifecta: £39.00; CSF: £17.24;

4.55 — 1 Dream Of Ithaca Liam Wright 15-8; 2 Foinix 11-10 Fav; 3 Dogged 15-2. 5 ran. 3 1/2, 5. J Gallagher. Tote Win: £2.88; Places: £1.60, £1.10; Tote Exacta: £4.50; Tote Trifecta: £12.30; CSF: £4.22;

5.30 — 1 Serenity Dream (IRE) Jack Doughty 4-1; 2 Dion Baker (IRE) 13-2; 3 North View 9-4 Fav. 6 ran. 1 1/2, 1 1/4. A W Carroll. Tote Win: £5.00; Places: £1.80, £3.10; Tote Exacta: £28.00; Tote Trifecta: £72.70; CSF: £29.41.

CHEPSTOW

5.20 — 1 Aravalli (IRE) Taylor Fisher 11-2; 2 Curran (IRE) 5-1; 3 Cosmo Brown (IRE) 7-1; JtFav Oasis Sunrise (IRE) 5-2; JtFav Double Red 5-2. 7 ran. 4 1/2, nk. J Tickle. Tote Win: £6.50; Places: £2.90, £2.60; Tote Exacta: £25.10; Tote Trifecta: £216.70; CSF: £32.91;

5.55 — 1 Downonmainstreet (IRE) D Egan Evens Fav; 2 Rogue Dakota (IRE) 13-2; 3 Marzad 25-1. 4 ran. 3, 8. M L W Bell. Tote Win: £2.00; Tote Exacta: £5.30; Tote Trifecta: £23.30; CSF: £7.79;

6.30 — 1 Solar Edge Gina Mangan 15-8 Fav; 2 Rogue Bullet (IRE) 3-1; 3 Over Spiced 7-1. 7 ran. 4 1/4, hd. C Mason. Tote Win: £3.10; Places: £1.30, £2.10; Tote Exacta: £9.80; Tote Trifecta: £52.20; CSF: £7.97;

7.05 — 1 Revelance Edward Greatrex 9-4 Fav; 2 Nakaaha 10-1; 3 Spirit Of The Bay (IRE) 17-2. 7 ran. 1, 1/2. R M Beckett. Tote Win: £3.25; Places: £1.70, £4.30; Tote Exacta: £25.10; Tote Trifecta: £144.80; CSF: £25.93;

7.40 — 1 Espona Bay (IRE) Christian Howarth 5-1; 2 Sydney Rock 14-1; 3 Clementines Star Evens Fav. 7 ran. 1/2, 3 1/4. S Dixon. Tote Win: £6.00; Places: £2.40, £3.40; Tote Exacta: £36.70; Tote Trifecta: £198.80; CSF: £67.71;

8.15 — 1 Red Snapper Charlie Tucker 5-2; 2 Pull The Rug (IRE) 11-1; 3 Hallandale Beach 6-5 Fav. 4 ran. nk, 2 1/2. Kathy Turner. Tote Win: £3.50; Tote Exacta: £18.70; Tote Trifecta: £32.90; CSF: £21.41.

NEWMARKET

2.20 — 1 Stormy Music Alfie Redman 13-2; 2 Born A Rebel 7-2; 3 Decalogue (USA) 10-1; JtFav Just Typical 10-3; JtFav Panelli 10-3. 7 ran. 1 1/2, shd. A M Balding. Tote Win: £7.50; Places: £2.70, £2.40; Tote Exacta: £26.50; Tote Trifecta: £278.20; CSF: £29.85;

2.55 — 1 Woodhay Wayfarer (IRE) Saffie Osborne 4-1; 2 High Calibre 10-3; 3 Emerald Bay (IRE) 9-2; Fav Lord Ragnar (IRE) 11-8. 5 ran. 1 1/4, 3. T Ward. Tote Win: £5.00; Places: £1.80, £2.00; Tote Exacta: £18.20; Tote Trifecta: £54.30; CSF: £17.41;

3.30 — 1 Crown And Two Billy Loughnane 7-2; 2 Zephyra 20-1; 3 Hello You Ten (IRE) 5-1; Fav Fast Performer 4-7. 7 ran. 3 1/2, 4 1/4. Tom Clover. Tote Win: £4.50; Places: £1.90, £7.10; Tote Exacta: £66.60; Tote Trifecta: £256.70; CSF: £65.14;

4.00 — 1 Cerro Blanco Billy Loughnane 1-25 Fav; 2 Nothing But Love 18-1; 3 Tacticalist 16-1. 4 ran. 7, 7 1/2. C Appleby. Tote Win: £1.04; Tote Exacta: £2.20; Tote Trifecta: £2.90; CSF: £2.18;

4.33 — 1 High Fibre (IRE) Cieren Fallon 6-5 Fav; 2 Percy Shelley 8-1; 3 Koala Rose (IRE) 9-4. 5 ran. 1 1/4, 7 1/2. James Owen. Tote Win: £2.20; Places: £1.40, £2.80; Tote Exacta: £8.80; Tote Trifecta: £21.60; CSF: £10.99;

5.08 — 1 Educator Billy Loughnane 11-10 Fav; 2 Seeking Charles (FR) 11-2; 3 King's Castle (IRE) 11-2. 6 ran. nse, 1 1/2. Miss H C Knight. Tote Win: £2.10; Places: £1.20, £2.20; Tote Exacta: £7.60; Tote Trifecta: £20.70; CSF: £7.66.

SANDOWN

5.38 — 1 Elevating S M Levey 9-2; 2 Crazee In Havana 4-1; 3 Catching Dreams 4-6 Fav. 9 ran. 2 1/4, 2 3/4. R Hannon. Tote Win: £6.90; Places: £1.40, £1.50, £1.10; Tote Exacta: £33.50; Tote Trifecta: £52.40; CSF: £24.68;

6.13 — 1 First Law (IRE) Connor Planas 8-11 Fav; 2 Flight Tracker 5-4; 3 Crown Ranger (IRE) 20-1. 4 ran. hd, 2. C Appleby. Tote Win: £1.73; Tote Exacta: £1.80; Tote Trifecta: £3.60; CSF: £1.99;

6.48 — 1 Edwin Hubble (IRE) Oisin Murphy 5-6 Fav; 2 Interstate 3-1; 3 Elan D'or 5-2. 3 ran. nk, 16. B J Meehan. Tote Win: £1.84; Tote Exacta: £3.60; Tote Trifecta: £4.20; CSF: £3.51;

7.23 — 1 Desert Shadow Oisin Murphy 7-2; 2 Thursday Girl 7-4 JtFav; 3 Ascending Star (IRE) 7-4 JtFav. 6 ran. 3 1/4, nk. S bin Suroor. Tote Win: £4.50; Places: £2.00, £1.50; Tote Exacta: £10.60; Tote Trifecta: £17.60; CSF: £10.18;

7.58 — 1 Bubbles Wonky (IRE) K Shoemark 9-1; 2 Amused (IRE) 11-2; 3 Great Blasket (IRE) 2-5 Fav. 6 ran. 1, shd. M Pattinson. Tote Win: £12.30; Places: £3.60, £2.10; Tote Exacta: £46.50; Tote Trifecta: £106.60; CSF: £57.00.

SOUTHWELL

5.04 — 1 Hear The Drums O J Orr 11-4 JtFav; 2 Miss Mambo (IRE) 9-2; 3 Soda (IRE) 14-1; JtFav Distillation (FR) 11-4. 10 ran. 3/4, 1 1/2. R A Fahey. Tote Win: £3.75; Places: £1.50, £2.00, £4.30; Tote Exacta: £19.30; Tote Trifecta: £195.70; CSF: £15.54; Tricast: £149.58;

5.34 — 1 Starakova Harry Vigors 10-3; 2 Here Comes Louie 6-1; 3 Thomas Tallis 11-1; Fav Elashgar (IRE) 2-1. 8 ran. 1 1/2, 1 1/2. W Greatrex. Tote Win: £4.90; Places: £2.10, £1.50, £3.50; Tote Exacta: £28.50; Tote Trifecta: £305.40; CSF: £24.35; Tricast: £200.13;

6.06 — 1 Hauteluce (FR) Ashley Lewis 10-3; 2 Blue Celestial 8-1; 3 Kiss Me My Love (IRE) 11-2; Fav Filly Eilish (IRE) 3-1. 11 ran. 3/4, 2 1/2. E Walker. Tote Win: £4.34; Places: £1.80, £2.80, £1.70; Tote Exacta: £31.80; Tote Trifecta: £230.30; CSF: £30.10; Tricast: £148.38;

6.41 — 1 Kodiac City (IRE) K Stott 15-2; 2 Baarberini 5-6 Fav; 3 Astral Crown (IRE) 25-1. 8 ran. 2, 2 1/2. R Hughes. Tote Win: £8.50; Places: £2.30, £1.10, £4.80; Tote Exacta: £10.90; Tote Trifecta: £287.10; CSF: £14.54;

7.16 — 1 Miraculous (IRE) D Allan 5-1; 2 Ziggy's Condor (IRE) 9-4 Fav; 3 Hectic 14-1. 10 ran. 3/4, 3/4. T D Easterby. Tote Win: £6.90; Places: £2.10, £1.50, £3.50; Tote Exacta: £17.70; Tote Trifecta: £126.50; CSF: £16.59; Tricast: £153.49;

7.51 — 1 Dorney Lake D Tudhope 9-2 Fav; 2 Fierce (IRE) 15-2; 3 Beattie Is Back 5-1. 9 ran. 3/4, 2. L Bailey. Tote Win: £5.50; Places: £1.20, £3.20, £2.00; Tote Exacta: £41.10; Tote Trifecta: £269.70; CSF: £39.09; Tricast: £177.77;

8.26 — 1 Spinning Wheel O J Orr 7-2; 2 Say What You See (IRE) 12-1; 3 El Burhan (IRE) 9-1; Fav Port Of London (IRE) 3-1. 12 ran. nk, hd. S & E Crisford. Tote Win: £4.50; Places: £1.60, £3.60, £2.50; Tote Exacta: £49.40; Tote Trifecta: £497.50; CSF: £48.42; Tricast: £367.35;

9.00 — 1 Junkyard Dog (IRE) A Mullen 9-1; 2 Dingwall 4-1; 3 Golspie (IRE) 4-1; Fav Into Combat 11-4. 11 ran. nk, 1/2. I Jardine. Tote Win: £10.00; Places: £3.10, £2.00, £1.80; Tote Exacta: £69.20; Tote Trifecta: £553.40; CSF: £48.87; Tricast: £176.05; Placepot: £73.70; Quadpot: £12.40.

Warren mum over Joshua-Fury venue

BATTLE-TESTED: Tyson Fury will face Anthony Joshua in a British heavyweight contest in November.

Queensberry promoter Frank Warren has refused to confirm if Tyson Fury and Anthony Joshua's heavyweight showdown will take place in America, but expects the bout to remain in November.

Speculation has been rife over where the eagerly-anticipated "Battle of Britain" will take place, with Wembley the initial frontrunner until an issue over the start time emerged.

With Saudi boxing chef Turki Alalshikh eager to stage the fight at a time which would attract a global audience, the United States has become the favoured country to host the all-British affair with Madison Square Garden in New York primed and ready.

Asked if New York and November 20 was correct, Fury's promoter Warren said: "That at this moment I can't comment on.

"That will be up to his Excellency (Alalshikh) to announce when he is ready to announce it.

"No (deadline). The fighters will just need to get into training some time in September so that is what will happen in early September.

"They will be ticking over at the moment, I'm sure. I can only speak for Tyson but he is with his family.

"And then as soon as the date's announced, he will get down to the serious and bring in sparring partners and prepare for the fight. I believe the fight will go on in November."

Once Alalshikh made clear the fight must suit an American audience, discussions took place over whether an exemption to Wembley's current curfew may be obtained to ensure the fight could begin at 2am.

But Warren said: "Of course I do (sympathise with British fans) but they contacted Wembley didn't they, Sela, and asked if they would push the time back and, as far as I understand, that has not happened."

Warren side-stepped questions about Fury's contract and if it stipulated the fight must happen in the UK, which is the case for Joshua according to his promoter, Eddie Hearn.

Joshua was sent to the canvas twice in round one by Albanian journeyman Kristian Prenga last month to raise questions about his punch resistance and it sparked debate over whether another warm-up contest could occur before he faces Fury.

However, Warren rejected that suggestion.

"He has had two fights in what, the last seven months? Jake Paul and Prenga, they are the two fights he has had," Warren pointed out.

"He is doing a training camp with (Oleksandr) Usyk, so what does he do if he doesn't fight? He will carry on training, training and training and he will be getting older, as will Tyson, so what is the point? Get on with it.

"What I do know is he is a dangerous man when he catches you. Coming forward he throws big punches and if he thinks he can catch Tyson and if he thinks he can hurt him, then he will fancy the fight.

"The problem he has got for himself is that he gets caught and he goes over. Looking at the Prenga fight, if that had been Tyson in there, that would have been all over.

"We have two guys who are getting very well paid but, more importantly, they both want to win the fight in a big way. Neither wants to be the loser.

"There comes a time in some fighters' careers where people think they are maybe not at their best but they go and dig deep to find something else.

"These two guys will have to dig deep when they fight each other because they both want it.

"Me? I say all day long it is Tyson but we'll find out when that first bell goes."

SPORT BRIEFS

FOOTBALL

PLAYED LAST NIGHT

Uefa Europa League third qualifying round (selected) – Jagiellonia Bialystok 2 Rangers 1; Benfica 6 Hearts 1.

Uefa Conference League third qualifying round (selected) – HJK 1 Motherwell 1; Hibernian 2 Shkendija 1.

TONIGHT'S FIXTURES

William Hill Scottish Championship – Partick Thistle v Livingston (7.30pm).

EFL Cup first round – Middlesbrough v Wrexham (8pm); Wolves v Port Vale (7.45pm); Wycombe Wanderers v Stevenage (7.45pm).

Swansea have announced the signing of striker Ross Stewart on a three-year deal.
The 30-year-old joins the Swans after he left Southampton as a free agent this summer following three years at the club.
Stewart scored nine goals in his 27 league appearances last term and was part of Scotland's squad at the 2026 World Cup.
Head coach Vitor Matos said: "Ross is an experienced and proven performer in the Championship, and we are delighted to have him as part of what we are trying to build here at Swansea City."

CRICKET

England and Hampshire fast bowler John Turner has announced his immediate retirement from all forms of cricket aged 25.
South Africa-born Turner played two T20s and two ODIs during England's tour of the West Indies in October and November 2024, but he has been out for over a year with a stress fracture in his back.

GOLF

MURCAR LINKS – Gents Medal (Order of Merit) H McDermott Qualifier White Tees – Class one – RF Munro (3) 67; J Russell (5) 68; C Stewart (1) 69 Class two – A Smith (11) 72; S Price (14) 73; G Taylor (12) 74. Gents Medal Yellow Tees – Class 1 – J Ibbotson (8) 73; I Barclay (7) 75. Class two – M McGee (14) 74. Ladies Stableford (M) – Bronze – S Henderson (25) 39. M Robinson (26) 35.
ROYAL ABERDEEN – Extra Wednesday Stableford – All Divisions: C Duffus (11) 40pts; S Blake (16) 39; S King (4), H Borland (22), G Stephen (14), W Riley (14), J Bochel (6), C Shanaghey (6), R Sham (13) 38.

TENNIS

Bridge of Allan's Sophie Dick is this year's North East Open Championships women's singles winner after an entertaining final victory against Chloe Sanderson (Bellfield Park), the score 6-2, 7-5. Favourite Joe Miller and Stonehaven's Daniel Tibbetts, the fifth seed, are both through to the quarter-finals in the men's singles following straight sets second-round wins against Jay Sivarajan (Rubislaw) and Haroon Bajwa (ATC) respectively.

SPORT ON TELEVISION

FOOTBALL: Carabao Cup, Middlesbrough v Wrexham – Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 7pm, ITV1 7.30pm; Scottish Championship, Partick Thistle v Livingston – BBC Scotland 7.30pm.
CRICKET: The Women's Hundred, Birmingham Phoenix v Sunrisers Leeds – Sky Sports Cricket 2.45pm, Sky Sports Main Event 3pm, Birmingham Phoenix v Sunrisers Leeds – Sky Sports Cricket 6pm.
TENNIS: WTA Toronto, ATP Montreal – Sky Sports Tennis 4pm, Sky Sports Main Event 10.45pm.
GOLF: PGA Tour, The Wyndham Championship – Sky Sports Golf 11.45am and 6pm; Ladies European Tour, The PIF London Championship – Sky Sports Golf 2pm.
RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League, Wakefield v Leeds – Sky Sports Action 7.30pm, Castleford v Hull KR – Sky Sports Plus 8pm, Leigh v York – Sky Sports Plus 8pm.
CYCLING: Tour de France Women stage seven – TNT Sports 1 2.15pm.

Tomorrow

FOOTBALL: Carabao Cup, Colchester v Southampton – Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 5pm.
CRICKET: The Women's Hundred, MI London v Trent Rockets – Sky Sports Cricket 10.45am, Sky Sports Main Event 11am, Southern Brave v Manchester Super Giants – Sky Sports Mix 2.30pm; The Men's Hundred, MI London v Trent Rockets – Sky Sports Cricket 2pm, Southern Brave v Manchester Super Giants – Sky Sports Cricket 5.30pm.
CYCLING: Tour de France Women stage eight – TNT Sports 1 2.30pm.
GOLF: Ladies European Tour, The PIF London Championship – Sky Sports Golf 1pm; PGA Tour, The Wyndham Championship – Sky Sports Golf 5pm.
HORSE RACING: Ascot, Haydock and Newmarket – ITV regions 1.10pm.
RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League, Huddersfield v Catalans – Sky Sports Plus 2pm, Wigan v Toulouse – Sky Sports Plus 5.30pm, Bradford v Warrington – Sky Sports Plus 6.30pm.
SNOOKER: Chinese Open – TNT Sports 1 7am.
TENNIS: WTA Toronto, ATP Montreal – Sky Sports Tennis 5.30pm and Sky Sports Main Event midnight (Sun).

SPORTS QUIZ

1 Who coached England to netball gold at the 2018 Commonwealth Games?
2 From which club did Tottenham sign Son Heung-min for £22 million in August 2015?
3 Who captained Leeds to FA Cup final victory over Arsenal in 1972?
4 Which racecourse stages the Queen Anne Stakes?
5 Who was the first British driver to win the Formula One world championship?
6 In which year did Steffi Graf win her final Wimbledon singles title?
7 In which field event does Poland's Anita Wlodarczyk hold the women's world record with 82.98m?
8 In which year did Hereford famously beat Newcastle in the FA Cup?
9 Who did Barry McGuigan beat in June 1985 to win the WBA world feather-weight title?
10 Paul George spent his first seven seasons with which NBA team?

ON THIS DAY

■ **1926:** The first British Grand Prix was staged at Brooklands. Known as the RAC Grand Prix, the race was won by Robert Senechal and Louis Wagner, driving their Delage at an average speed of 71.61 miles per hour.
■ **2011:** Nani struck a stoppage-time winner as Manchester United fought back from 2-0 down to beat rivals Manchester City 3-2 in the Community Shield at Wembley.
■ **2012:** On a bumper day for Great Britain at the London Olympics, Chris Hoy won gold in the men's keirin, his second triumph of the Games and his sixth Olympic gold overall. There were also golds for Alistair Brownlee (men's triathlon), Laura Bechtolsheimer, Charlotte Dujardin and Carl Hester (team dressage) and Laura Trott (women's omnium), while Victoria Pendleton was a silver medallist in the women's sprint.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Tracey Neville; 2. Bayer Leverkusen; 3. Billy Bremner; 4. Ascot; 5. Mike Hawthorn in 1958; 6. 1996; 7. Hammer; 8. 1972; 9. Eusebio Pedroza; 10. Indiana Pacers.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Big guns ready for match of the year

FOCUSED: Calum Howard said Huntly's near miss last season is giving the side motivation to go one better this time.

BY CALLUM LAW

Aberdeenshire and Huntly are gearing up for a top-of-the-table clash at Mannofield which will have major ramifications in the race for the SPCU North East Championship table.

With four matches remaining this season, the hosts sit at the summit of the division, but if their opponents from Strathbogie prevail tomorrow they will become the new leaders.

Huntly missed out on title glory last year in agonising fashion after losing a winner-takes-all showdown against Freuchie on the final day of the campaign.

Calum Howard says that near miss is motivating Huntly this season.

"There's a lot riding on this game for us, but we're happy with how we're playing and we're quite comfortable being the ones gunning for Aberdeenshire rather than being top and trying to stay there," he said. "Hopefully the experience of last season stands us in good stead.

"It was disappointing because we were so close and afterwards myself and the other older boys in the team were wondering if we might get another chance to win it.

"However, our young players have absolutely no fear, they're continually developing year on year and will get more chances to win it.

"Missing out last year has probably given us an extra bit of drive and hopefully we can take it right to the end of the season again."

Meanwhile, Aberdeenshire captain Lewis Munro has urged his side to keep themselves in pole position to win the championship.

He said: "It's a really exciting game and it's a must-win game for both sides.

"We know Huntly will be right up for it, but we'll be up for it as well.

"There's no getting away from the fact it's a very important game in the context of the season.

"I think the outcome of the game will go a long way to deciding the league so it's a massive game for us."

Elsewhere in the North East Championship, Crescent-Dunecht – who are enjoying a fine season and are fourth in the table – take on Meigle at Guthrie Park in Brechin.

Stoneywood-Dyce, buoyed by last weekend's victory against Glenrothes, welcome Strathmore to People's Park.

In SPCU Division One, Master Blasters Aberdeen visit Perth Doo'cot 2nds and Gordonians travel to St Modans.

In the North East Grades, Division One leaders Mannofield face Grampian at Inverdee and closest pursuers Bon Accord tackle Aberdeen Grammar at Harlaw.

The other top-flight fixtures are Cults v Crescent-Dunecht (St Margaret's), Inverurie v 2nd Grampian (Kellands Park) and Knight Riders v Master Blasters (Groats Road).

In Grade Two, leaders 2nd Knight Riders play second-placed Aberdeen Tigers at Inverdee, third-placed Huntly are also still in the hunt and host 2nd Mannofield at Castle Park.

Portcullis face Banchory at Duthie Park, Gordonians meet 2nd Master Blasters at Countesswells and 2nd Grammar tackle Fraserburgh at Rubislaw.

In Grade Three Ceylon Deeside are now clear at the top and take on 2nd Banchory tomorrow. Elsewhere, it's 2nd Bon Accord v Methlick, Ellon Gordon v 2nd Gordonians and Crathie v 2nd Crescent-Dunecht. On Sunday 3rd Grammar play Stonehaven Thistle.

On Sunday in the Grade Four Cup it's Granite City v Grampian and 3rd Knight Riders v 3rd Mannofield.

Dan Lawrence will get his chance for England soon.

Lawrence and Cox in but Bethell ruled out for first Pakistan Test

Dan Lawrence and Jordan Cox have been earmarked to play in England's first Test against Pakistan, with Jacob Bethell set to miss the three-match series because of a right knee injury.

The post-Ben Stokes era starts at Headingley on August 19 and Surrey's batting all-rounder Lawrence is set to have the first crack at trying to fill the prodigious shoes of the former Test captain.

He is set to bat at number six with wicketkeeper Jamie Smith likely to slot in one place lower down, while Bethell being sidelined has opened the door for Cox, who has been allocated first drop in the batting order.

Cox's own injury misfortune meant he only made his Test debut against New Zealand at the Kia Oval in June, when he was down at seven, but he is set for a more prominent role.

Fast bowler Brydon Carse missed the 2-1 loss against the Black Caps because of an injury to his right hand but he has been named in England's 16-strong squad for the first two Tests under returning captain Joe Root, with Marcus Trescothick interim head coach in the absence of the newly-appointed Stephen Fleming.

Former vice-captain Ollie Pope has also been recalled, having been discarded after a disappointing Ashes in which he averaged 20.83 before making way for Bethell, while seamer Sam Cook is also included, having made his lone Test appearance against Zimbabwe in May 2025 and been overlooked since.

Off-spinner Shoaib Bashir has been retained although it remains to be seen if he keeps his spot in the XI after confirmation that Lawrence, who bowls useful off-breaks, will definitely be in the team.

Lawrence has been in the international wilderness since making the last of his 14 Test appearances in September 2024, having struggled batting out-of-position as an opener against Sri Lanka.

He has, though, been in a rich vein of form in the Rothesay County Championship, averaging 65.66 with five 100-plus scores in eight Division One outings this season, which has turned the heads of England's selectors.

Bowling all-rounders Sam Curran and Rehan Ahmed were the other options to try to balance the side in the absence of Stokes, who ended his storied England career following the series defeat by the Kiwis after 7,273 runs and 252 wickets in Tests.

England head into the curtain-raiser against Pakistan having lost seven of their last nine Tests while they are without a series win since December 2024.

Olympic champion Muirhead returns to sport

Eve Muirhead has announced she is to return to competition four years after retiring following the Beijing Winter Olympics. The decorated Team GB curler, a four-time Olympian and gold medallist in Beijing, is to return to action in mixed doubles alongside two-time Olympic silver medallist Bobby Lammie, with sights set on the 2030 Games. The pair won the mixed doubles world championship in 2022 and will reunite in pursuit of Olympic qualification for Alpes 2030. "When I announced my retirement in 2022, I had achieved the thing I had worked towards for my entire career and could not have stepped away on a higher note," said Muirhead. "The time away gave me the space I needed. It allowed me to explore new opportunities, take on different physical challenges and rediscover the enjoyment of training and competing without the pressure I had placed on myself for so many years."

Clubs reunited in honour of Donnie

BY GARY HEATLY

Lochaber and Caithness' men's rugby teams will play in the first ever Donnie MacLennan Memorial Match tomorrow to remember someone who was a "tremendous player for both clubs".

Donnie MacLennan passed away in March and when the news filtered through it hit both clubs hard.

MacLennan started his rugby career at Lochaber High School, then progressed to Lochaber Rugby Club where he played prop forward for many years. He then continued his rugby career with Caithness Rugby Club and had a brief stint back at Lochaber before his work took him to Dingwall.

Now the clubs he held dear to his heart have come together to arrange the Donnie MacLennan Memorial Match in his memory and, as pre-season ahead of the upcoming 2026-27 campaign continues, Lochaber and Caithness will play each other at the former's Banavie ground at 3pm.

"Around the time that Donnie passed away, I discussed the possibility of a game between the clubs with Gary Hendrie from Lochaber," Jim MacMillan, the Caithness co-chairman, said.

"The plan was then firmed up following the funeral as we all thought it would be a fitting tribute to Donnie, who had been a tremendous player for both clubs.

"Donnie's son David was then delighted to hear that the clubs were going to compete in a competitive match in memory of his dad and we set the ball rolling.

"There has been little contact between the clubs at senior level in recent years as Lochaber are now part of the West leagues and Caithness play in the Caledonia leagues so it'll be nice to see the sides on the same pitch again this weekend.

"I am from Ardnamurchan and I went to Oban High School and myself and Donnie played rugby against each other at school.

Donnie MacLennan.

"We were in direct competition as Donnie played loosehead prop and I played tighthead prop.

"Donnie played 139 times for the Caithness first team between 1987 and 2004 and he is greatly missed."

The trophy the teams will be playing for this weekend has been donated by MacLennan's longtime friend John MacKay, whose nickname is "Hymac".

"John is a contractor working in the forestry and peatland restoration industry and he had a great relationship with Donnie," MacMillan said.

"It is fitting that the silverware being played for in the Donnie MacLennan Memorial Match will be the Hymac Trophy."

Aberdeen will host the championships this weekend.

Dodgeball's best teams on their way to city for European showpiece

Europe's best teams will descend on Aberdeen this weekend for the Northern European Dodgeball Championships.

Aberdeen Sports Village will play host to teams from Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Sweden and Scotland for the three-day tournament.

More than 300 spectators are expected for the competition, which features men's, women's and mixed categories of cloth dodgeball.

"We can't wait to welcome the teams to Aberdeen for what will be an exciting weekend of international dodgeball," said Dodgeball Scotland manager Anthony Aldred.

For Aberdonian Jodie Wright, it is a special moment as she prepares to make her Scotland debut in her home city.

"Making my Scotland debut is something I'm really proud of," she said.

"I've only been playing dodgeball for a couple of years, so getting the chance to represent my country at a home tournament is pretty special.

"I'm looking forward to getting out on court, enjoying the experience and seeing what we can do as a team."

Matches will run from 10.30am to 8pm today, then 8.45am to 5pm tomorrow and Sunday.

Scotland are currently ranked seventh in Europe for cloth dodgeball.

They train monthly in Edinburgh and are entirely self-funded.

"We're looking forward to showcasing the sport to local audiences, as well as viewers around the world through our livestream coverage.

"Ultimately, we want to encourage more people to give dodgeball a shot!

"As a grassroots sport, events like this only happen because of support we receive.

"We're incredibly grateful to the National Lottery Community Fund, Aberdeen City Council, and everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts.

"Their backing has made it possible to not only host the NEC, but keep the event free for spectators, allowing as many people as possible to come along and enjoy the action."

Founded in 2011, Dodgeball Scotland is Scotland's national team, with a squad comprising 40 players and staff.

> "As a grassroots sport, events like this only happen because of support we receive

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Stenson on brink of Tour return

Henrik Stenson will make a long-awaited return to the DP World Tour next week.

Stenson has not featured on his home tour since a tied-eighth finish at the Hero Dubai Desert Classic back in January 2023.

All eyes were on the Swede at the time, who just months earlier, had the Ryder Cup captaincy stripped from him on the back of deciding to join LIV Golf in the summer of 2022.

Less than three months after his appearance in Dubai, Stenson was a of a number of high profile LIV golfers to withdraw their DP World Tour membership, to avoid further sanctioning from Wentworth HQ.

Two-and-a-half-years later, the 2015 Open champion's time with LIV came to an end, after he was relegated from the breakaway league following a disappointing end.

Stenson then opted to reapply for DP World Tour membership in November – as first reported by bunkered.co.uk – having settled the outstanding fines owed to the circuit for competing in "conflicting" LIV events.

From there, Stenson's starts in 2026 have been limited, having initially made a return to compete on the Legends Tour, the senior circuit based out of Europe.

Now he is finally back in DP World Tour action, having committed to play next week's Danish Golf Championship.

Stenson is also expecting to kick start his career out in the US on the Champions Tour, with his one-year suspension from the PGA Tour set to expire this month.

Fichardt aims to make up for last year's loss

BY JIM BLACK

The leaderboard at the Staysure PGA Seniors Championship could hardly be more congested with three players sharing top spot after yesterday's first round at Trump International's New Course.

South African Darren Fichardt, runner-up to American Bo Van Pelt 12 months ago, led for most of the day after a six-under-par round moved him into top spot with half the field not even out on the course.

But Fichardt's countryman Keith Horne and New Zealander Michael Campbell came with a late charge to earn a share of the bragging rights with closing birdies for matching 66s well into the evening.

Scotland's David Drysdale also made a move into fourth on his own, just a shot behind the leading trio after birdieing 15 and 17 for a 67 to improve to five-under.

Local hero Greig Hutcheon is in joint sixth with Australian Scott Hend after the Aberdonian had recovered from two early blows to launch an impressive birdie blitz.

Hutcheon refused to allow dropped shots at the second and fifth holes to affect his mindset in the £855,000 tournament.

And despite eventually dropping down the pecking order by the close of play, the 53-year-old declared his intent by carding six birdies from the fourth through to the 16th for a 68.

Up to that point only Fichardt had managed to outshine the seven-time Tartan Tour order of merit champion when he took route 66 into pole position.

Fichardt, who lost out to Van Pelt at the first extra hole of a sudden-death play-off 12 months ago, was on course to extend his lead to three shots until a temporary wobble at the 16th cost him a stroke.

Prior to his slip up, the 51-year-old from Pretoria had been putt perfect, reeling off seven birdies in 15 holes, starting at the first.

And with a CV highlighting 25 career wins including five on the European Tour, Fichardt is a man with a target on his back heading into round two.

But Hutcheon is Fichardt's equal in one sense at least in that both men have one senior title each while the former also has the advantage of local knowledge and vastly more experience of links golf and the elements that often influence scoring.

Hutcheon, whose senior success came at the Legends Tour de France two years ago, can also point to a fine record of 13 titles and has won both the Scottish PGA and Northern Open three times each.

Bo Van Pelt carded a 73.

Campbell, meanwhile, must be dreaming of a potential Kiwi double in the wake of Ryan Fox's Open triumph at Royal Birkdale last month.

Recalling his heartbreak loss, Fichardt declared that he's definitely got some unfinished business to take care of.

He recalled: "Last year my wrist actually packed up with three or four holes to go and it didn't last.

"But I was very happy with how I played today. It was freezing cold this morning, so I thought something around level would be quite good. But then I got it to seven-under, and unfortunately, I made a bogey at a par-three.

"But I was amazed to score so well because there were a lot of crosswinds, which made it really difficult to get the distance right."

After finishing joint runner-up in the Senior Open at Gleneagles less than a fortnight ago, Fichardt is undoubtedly the form player of the leading trio.

He added: "I think my putting in my short game is pretty good right now. I also found something in my swing after the first round at Gleneagles. It's become smoother and not as quick and short.

"So that seems to be working really well. I think there's a lot of a lot more consistency in the ball strike, and I'm getting my little fade back as well, which is quite nice."

The Scottish duo of big guns Paul Lawrie and Stephen Gallacher produced matching 72s for level par totals, with both players having two birdies and two bogeys each with the former picking up his second birdie at the last.

Defending champion Van Pelt made an unspectacular start to his title defence, carding a one-over 73 after failing to catch fire.

Van Pelt began birdie, bogey, bogey, birdie before also shedding a shot at the eighth.

He then put together nine consecutive pars on the inward half in a show of consistency.

Colin Montgomerie posted an opening round 72.

Monty goes on rollercoaster ride as

Tournament host Colin Montgomerie took a rollercoaster ride to an opening 72 at the Staysure PGA Seniors Championship yesterday to calm fears of being cut adrift after just 18 holes.

The 63-year-old Ryder Cup legend had to endure something of a stop-start round on the New Course he has described as one of the finest in world golf.

Scotland's eight-time European No 1 was two-over with six holes remaining following a run of two bogeys, one double bogey and two birdies from the second through 11.

But a strong finish rescued his bid when he picked up shots at 13 and the last to finish level in the top 25 alongside compatriot Simon Stevenson, 53-year-old managing secretary of The St Rule Club in St Andrews, who birdied three of the last six holes.

ON FORM: Darren Fichardt, top, shares the lead after the opening round after posting a 66; Greig Hutcheon, left, and Paul Lawrie began their PGA Seniors Championship bids with a 68 and 72 respectively.

strong finish to opening round ends with a 72

Scottish South African Doug McGuigan, the son of a former footballer, Francis, who emigrated to Durban where the golfer was born, signed for one shot fewer than Monty.

An eight-time champion on the Sunshine Tour, 55-year-old McGuigan, who has still to record a victory on the senior circuit, is one of 12 Scots in the field.

Glaswegian Alastair Forsyth, in his rookie season after turning 50 in February, carded 74 in his attempt to bed in on the senior circuit.

A former holder of the Scottish Amateur title, Forsyth won twice on the European Tour before focusing on a career as a teaching pro.

Scott Drummond, winner of the DP World Tour's flagship PGA Championship in 2004, had to make do with a 79, the same as Edinburgh's Raymond Russell, a former European Tour winner whose principal claim to fame was finishing fourth in the 1998 Open at Royal Birkdale.

Edinburgh's Andrew Oldcorn, who has played in more than 150 tournaments since 2010, winning twice, and Euan McIntosh had matching 78s.

Michael Block bagged hole-in-one at Seniors.

Block makes ace headlines – but in a bit-part role

Michael Block once made headlines as a club pro who upstaged a host of star names at the US PGA Championship.

But three years after occupying centre stage at Oak Hill Country Club where he finished tied 15th, the 50-year-old Californian had to settle for being a bit player at the Staysure Seniors PGA Championship yesterday.

The only club pro to make the cut in the final major of the season in 2023, Block came back down to earth on his Legends Tour debut with something of a thud.

An opening 76 leaves him on four-over with work to do to ensure that he's still around for the weekend at Trump International north of Aberdeen.

But history did repeat itself yesterday in one sense when Block aced the par-3 seventh hole – in a rerun of his exploits at Oak Hill where he also bagged a hole-in-one during the final round of his major fairytale run.

That enabled him to improve to one-under at the turn after following bogeys at the third and fifth with a birdie at the sixth to make a statement of intent.

Regrettably, it all went wrong for the new boy after that as he struggled to make his mark and relive memories of the greatest four days of his career.

A triple bogey seven at the 10th and three more dropped shots at 14, 15 and 17 had Block in trouble until a birdie finish improved his lot ever so slightly.

Englishman Andrew Willey put down an early marker at the New Course of one-under-par following an opening 71 after birdieing three of the last four holes.

But the 51-year-old from Nottingham was soon overtaken by several rivals among the morning starters, notably Swede Jarmo Sandelin.

The 59-year-old Ryder Cup player mixed three birdies with a single bogey for a two-under 70 as he chases a third over-50s title.

A five-time winner on the European Tour, Sandelin added the MCB Tour Championship and the Swiss Senior Open to his CV.

Sandelin was a member of the 1999 European team that lost out to the hosts in the infamous Battle of Brookline which ended in acrimony when US team members encroached on to the 18th green before the match was officially over.

Justin Leonard's 45-foot putt on the 17th after the Americans had fought back from 10-6 down going into the singles sparked chaos with Jose Maria Olzabal still to putt and left a sour taste in the mouths of the Europeans.

Another ex-Ryder Cup player, England's David Howell, who was a member of the successful 2004 and 2006 teams, also made a solid start, picking up shots back-to-back at 14 and 15 for an opening 71.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Glenurquhart closing in on top-flight return

BY ALASDAIR BRUCE

Glenurquhart are on the cusp of a return to the Mowi Premiership following their 3-1 midweek win over title challengers Lovat.

The Mowi National Division leaders led through Neale Reid with Daniel MacLean and Alfie MacLeod adding goals before the break.

The returning Lewis Tawse countered for Lovat on 76 minutes, and Marc MacLachlan saw a late penalty saved by Glen keeper Tommy Ellis before hitting the post with a retake.

A delighted Glen boss Iain MacLeod said: "I can't remember the last time we beat Lovat, and we could have won by more.

"We played some lovely, mobile shinty up front. John Barr, Andrew Corrigan and Fraser Heath held the midfield and let the forwards run riot."

Glenurquhart and Lovat are back in action tomorrow.

Glen will check on the injured Ali MacKintosh ahead of their visit to Kilmallie while Lovat have Graeme Macmillan and Angus Mearns free of suspension for the trip to Bute.

Bottom of the table Oban Celtic have intimated to the Camanachd Association that they're unable to complete the season due to a shortage of committed senior players.

Despite their best efforts, Celtic have found it increasingly difficult to fulfil their fixtures and all points from this season's league games will be nullified.

This decision wasn't taken lightly and the club hopes to stabilise and rebuild in Mowi South Division 1 next season.

Oban Celtic found themselves in a similar position towards the end of their 2024 campaign before bouncing back the following year and they're one of several clubs that have struggled to field teams over recent weeks.

Beauly's Euan MacCormick remains suspended for the meeting with Inveraray.

The Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup is down to the final four with the semi-finals scheduled over the next two weekends.

First up is Kingussie's tie with Skye Camanachd at Bught Park, Inverness.

Calum Grant, Roddy Young, Dylan Borthwick, James Falconer, Fraser Munro, Savio Genini and Lee Bain all missed Kingussie's win over Col Glen last weekend while Zander Michie went off injured early in the game.

Skye manager David Taylor said: "John Gillies is definitely out, and a few boys are carrying niggles, so we'll see how everyone is at the end of the week before making some final decisions."

Throw up is at 4.10pm and the match will be broadcast live on BBC Alba.

Mowi Premiership leaders Newtonmore travel to Col Glen.

Newtonmore manager Peter Ross said: "We have respect for Col Glen, and we know they'll have a right go at us.

"Everyone's seen how well they did against Kingussie this season, but we've said to the boys that we want no excuses, and we're going there to get two points."

Oban Camanachd and Kyles Athletic along with Fort William and Kinlochshiel brought their fixtures forward as all four clubs have their second teams in HIS Sutherland Cup semi-final action tomorrow.

Oban Camanachd beat Kyles Athletic 4-1 on Wednesday evening.

Daniel Macmillan gave Kyles a shock early lead but Donald Irvine's own goal early in the second half levelled the contest.

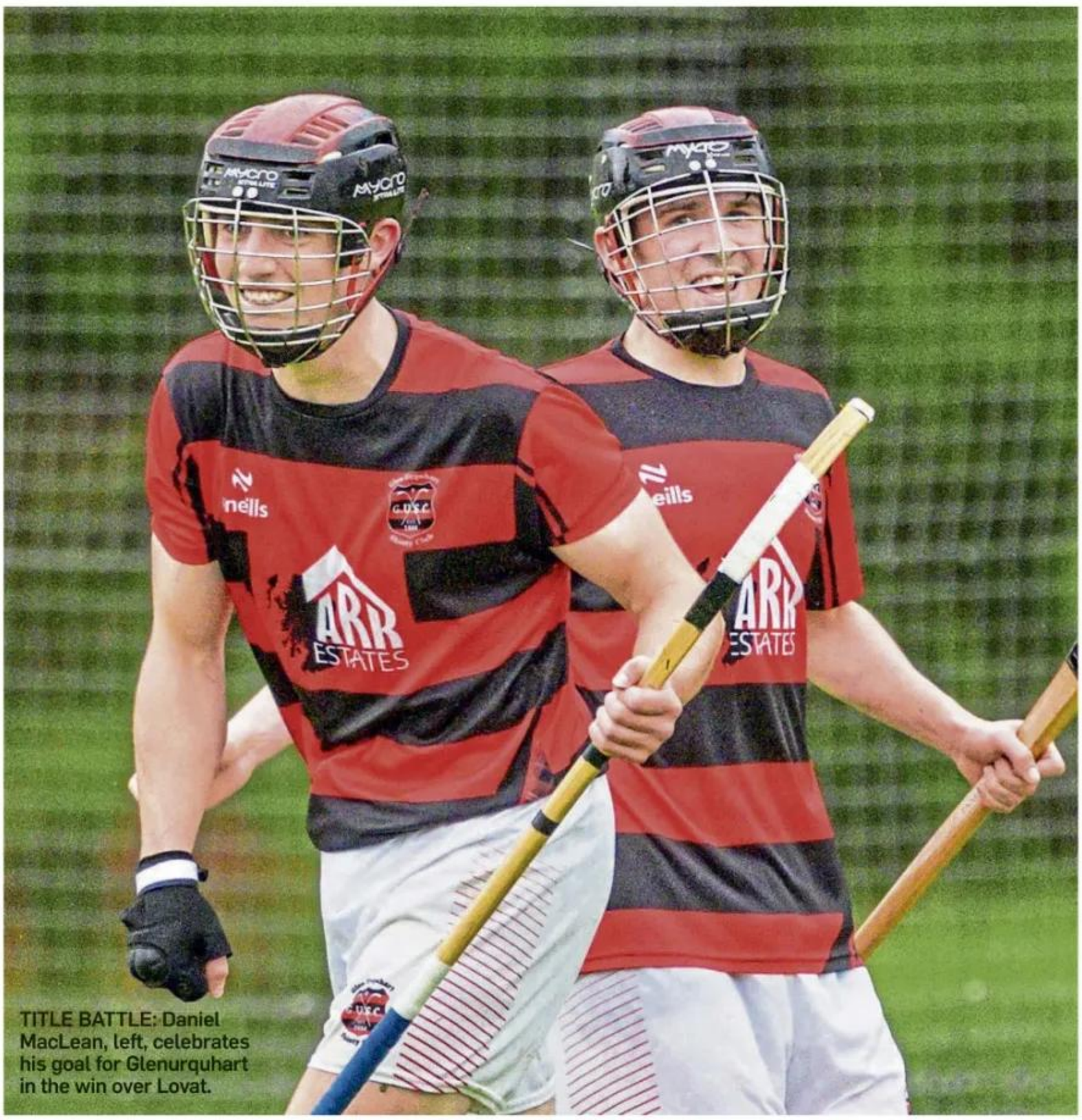
Connor Howe and two-goal Kyle MacFarlane sealed victory.

Fort William host Kinlochshiel this evening.

Fort's Ewen Campbell copped a whopping six-match suspension following his double red card at Kinlochshiel which rules him out until the Fort's final two games of the season.

Kinlochshiel boss Willie MacRae said: "Conor Cormack and Keith MacRae return but Zander MacRae and Ollie MacRae are still out. I'll leave Jay MacRae and Owen Mackenzie with the second team."

Lochaber check on Shaun Nicolson and Gregor Cameron ahead of the visit of Caberfeidh.



TITLE BATTLE: Daniel MacLean, left, celebrates his goal for Glenurquhart in the win over Lovat.

London on track to host Worlds in 2029

London's bid to host the 2029 World Athletics Championships has been given a huge boost after organisers reached an agreement with West Ham over use of the London Stadium.

There were concerns the bid, which has been backed by the UK Government and London mayor Sadiq Khan, could be scuppered by the availability of the football stadium.

The football club maintains "the highest priority has always been the West Ham United supporters" and that after "detailed negotiations" a deal was struck to ensure there would be "minimal impact" on their campaign.

A West Ham statement read: "West Ham United can confirm it has reached an agreement with London Stadium LLP and Athletics Ventures for London Stadium to be included as a host venue as part of a UK Government-backed bid to hold the 2029 World Athletics Championships in London.

"The agreement follows a period of detailed negotiations with the organisers, London Stadium operators, local and national government officials, and the relevant football governing bodies.

"Throughout the process the club's highest priority has always been the West Ham United supporters, ensuring any agreed programme has minimal impact on the football schedule and respects the club's overriding priority principle as detailed in the concession agreement."

As part of the agreement, the club revealed, "a number of new initiatives" will be undertaken to "enhance the stadium and match-day experience for supporters".

Uefa will stand by World Cup boycott

BY JAMIE GARDNER

A European boycott of the World Cup remains in place, Uefa has said, hours after Fifa indicated its under-fire president Gianni Infantino would carry on and still had its "full support".

Infantino has been under pressure for over a week after a controversial plan to sell stakes in a company to run the World Cup to private investors first emerged on July 28.

The plan was rejected by Uefa and two other continental confederations, with Uefa also stating its 55 member countries would boycott Fifa competitions until the plan was scrapped.

Fifa's management board gave Infantino its backing at a meeting in Morocco on Wednesday, but the European confederation said yesterday that "changes nothing".

"Uefa's associations were very clear about the conditions attached to the non participation in Fifa competitions," a Uefa statement read.

"First, the proposals to sell off the major competitions had to be withdrawn and secondly, assurances have to be made that such attempts to disfigure the game in this way will never be made again.

"These conditions have not been met. In addition, Uefa made it abundantly clear in its statement on Saturday that it has lost confidence in Gianni Infantino's presidency. That position holds.

"Yesterday's announcement that some people employed by the Fifa President (and whose careers depend on his favour) agree with him changes nothing."

Uefa objected to the process Infantino had followed but most of all to the prospect of private investors having an influence over a sporting competition, amid fears they could push for ever bigger, ever more frequent events.

Infantino intended to create a company, Fifa Forward Enterprise (FFE) which would manage commercial and operational aspects of its competitions, including the men's and women's World Cups and Club World Cups.

The most controversial detail was the intention to sell a 20% stake of the company to private investors.

FIFA confirmed last week that Thrive Eternal, founded by Joshua Kushner, the brother of United States President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, had been earmarked to lead the investor group.

Uefa is also understood to be considering the commission of a study to assess whether Fifa's proposed $20billion (£15bn) valuation of FFE was under market rate.

Even after Infantino confirmed last Saturday that the FFE plan had been withdrawn, Uefa issued a fresh statement saying it had "lost confidence" in him.

Fifa's show of support in its own president and the apology issued over the handling of the FFE plan has also not changed the Football Association's mind about him. The English governing body is understood to still be sending a letter to Fifa confirming the withdrawal of its support for his candidacy in next year's presidential elections.

The Football Association of Wales (FAW) has publicly withdrawn its support, along with the FAs of Serbia, Sweden and Finland.

Sources told the Press Association on Wednesday night that Fifa's statement had only stoked the fire of the anger his opponents felt towards him, predicting there would now be 'open warfare' at the top of world football politics.

Even before Wednesday's statement, Fifa Council members were understood to be working to secure the 19-strong majority needed to request Infantino to call a meeting, where they could hold him to account over the private investor plan and the Folarin Balogun case.

Council members are understood to remain prepared to carry out a "governance boycott" of council meetings – which would effectively incapacitate Fifa – if they are unable to reach a majority, or if Infantino refuses the request for a meeting despite gaining the requisite majority.

Fifa's statement said Infantino had the "full support" of the members of its management board present at Wednesday's meeting in Rabat, Morocco, with the Swiss clearly intent on remaining in charge despite opposition building towards his presidency.

UNDER-FIRE: Gianni Infantino is fighting to remain as Fifa president.

Salah greeted after his switch to Turkey

Mohamed Salah has signed a two-year deal with Turkish Super Lig side Trabzonspor after hundreds of fans turned out to greet the former Liverpool forward at Ataturk Airport.

The club announced on Tuesday evening that he would travel to Trabzon via Istanbul in order to formalise the move to his new side.

The 34-year-old was a free agent after leaving Anfield this summer following nine years at the club, where he scored 257 times in 442 appearances and won two Premier League titles and the Champions League.

Salah was linked with several clubs this summer, and had received an offer from Trabzonspor's Super Lig rivals Besiktas.

The deal for the former Premier League player of the season and Golden Boot winner is a significant coup for Trabzonspor, who won the last of their seven Turkish league titles in 2022. The other six came during a golden period between 1976 and 1984.

They finished third last season, eight points behind champions Galatasaray, and face a play-off against opponents to be determined to qualify for the league phase of the Europa League.

Mohamed Salah meets the Trabzonspor fans.

Tottenham youngster agrees Germany loan

Mikey Moore has agreed to join Bundesliga club Cologne on a season-long loan, but Tottenham are yet to give the green light to the move, it is understood.

Highly-rated young attacker Moore flourished on loan at Rangers during the 2025-26 campaign before he was given the chance to impress Spurs boss Roberto De Zerbi throughout this pre-season.

While the 18-year-old has produced eye-catching moments this summer, a second loan away from Tottenham has been agreed as the best course of action, but Moore has not yet received permission to fly to Germany to complete the move.

Championship club Middlesbrough and a second spell at Rangers were options closer to home for Moore, but the chance to play in one of Europe's top five leagues was too good to turn down for the England youth prospect.

Borussia Dortmund had registered an interest in Moore at the start of the summer before their efforts were thwarted by Spurs' refusal to include an option to make the move permanent in any loan deal.

Moore is expected to complete a straight loan switch to Cologne in the coming days and will link up with former England Under-17 team-mate Reigan Heskey in Germany.

Newmachar ready for challenge of East End

There's a full NOSFL league programme tomorrow with Newmachar United and East End, who have both made excellent starts to their campaigns, meeting at Charlie Gordon Park.

United, who were expecting another season in the Championship after losing out in last season's play-offs before Hermes decision to announce a period of abeyance, took the unexpected promotion in their stride with a 4-1 victory last weekend at Deveronside, ironically the team that defeated them in May's final.

However, manager Mark Robb believes as far as the season goes, very little has changed.

"We were looking to get straight back up, now our objective is to see how far we go and make the most of an unfortunate situation that we had no control over," he said.

"We lost a couple of lads who wanted to stay in the Premier League and had signed for clubs before the Hermes decision but we have brought in the guys we wanted to and we just keep going. The game at Deveronside was always going to be tough, we know that and it was and it'll be another hard one tomorrow."

East End opened with those wins on the road at Maud and Deveronside and boss Aaron McGuigan believes his squad has gelled faster than he could have hoped.

"With New Advocates getting work on it, we'll be on our travels a lot until the middle of next month but it's been really positive," he said.

"We've signed a lot of players including Adam Reid, Nick Wozniak, Luke Fawcett and Cammy Ross as well as Lee McAllister, who captains the side, on a permanent basis, but Newmachar have added quality too and the tight pitch there, which they know well, always makes it a difficult venue to go to so I don't expect there'll be much in it."

Champions Stonehaven, who started where they left off with a 4-0 success over Hall Russell United in midweek, are again at Glenury Park, this time to face Deveronside while at Ian Mair Park Dyce welcome Colony Park, with former manager Marc Reid now co-boss along with Scott Steele at the Inverurie club.

Culter have signalled their intention to regain top spot with a bang, firing no fewer than 19 goals in their opening two games and they entertain a Bridge of Don Thistle outfit determined to return to winning ways after narrow back-to-back reversals.

Longside host Ellon United, at Raemoss Park, it's Buchanhaven Hearts against Hall Russell United, Lossiemouth United travel to Maud and Rothie Rovers are at home to Fraserburgh United.

Dufftown, who lead the Championship on goal difference, are on the road at Forres Thistle, while Banchory St Ternan and Stoneywood Parkvale, both winners last week, meet at Milton Park.

Buckie Rovers play Islavale, New Elgin host Nairn St Ninian, Sunnybank are at Cruden Bay, Glentanar are at home to Burghead Thistle and Whitehills visit Westdyke.

Keith list Killoh

Keith's Connor Killoh has been placed on the transfer list, The Press and Journal understands.

The midfielder has been with the Maroons since the summer of 2022 and helped the Kynoch Park outfit finish seventh in the Breedon Highland League last season.

But it is believed Killoh is hoping for more game time and as a result he has been made available for transfer with other clubs notified about his availability.

Impressive 'Well draw in Helsinki

NOW YOU SEE ME: Tawanda Maswanhise netted the opener for Motherwell from the penalty spot.

HJK Helsinki	1
Motherwell	1

BY ANTHONY BROWN

Alfred Johansson was "very proud" of his Motherwell side as they maintained their unbeaten start to his reign with a 1-1 draw away to HJK Helsinki in the first leg of their Conference League third qualifying round tie.

The Lanarkshire side's new Swedish boss briefly looked on course for his fourth consecutive victory at the helm when Tawanda Maswanhise's penalty gave the Steelmen the lead at the Bolt Arena just after the hour following a foul on Regan Charles-Cook.

But 36-year-old former Celtic and Norwich striker Teemu Pukki stepped off the bench to equalise with his first touch in the 71st minute, while Well midfielder Alex Lowry was down injured, leaving the tie delicately poised ahead of next week's second leg at Fir Park.

"We played a good performance today," said Johansson. "I'm very, very proud of the players. That was impressive, to be honest, from where I'm sat.

"I think we dug deep and we played parts of the game at a high level.

Teemu Pukki.

"Second half, long period was really good. It was an unfortunate situation where we conceded the goal.

"We had one guy down and it's a very experienced number nine they have. It can happen. I'm proud of the performance. I think we've done a good job here."

Johansson was particularly pleased with the way Well seized the initiative in the second half after a cagey first period.

"I think the players started to be even more brave in their decision-making," he said. "I think we were breaking lines a little bit better.

"It's mainly the players who decided to say, 'no, okay, let's play, let's do our thing'.

"The guys were also more aggressive in the pressure in the second half, which allows you then to recover a couple of balls higher up the pitch, which then maybe gives you two minutes here, three minutes there with possession on their half, which then makes you feel more confident on the ball as well.

"I think the players, they just turned up the heat a little bit. That was good to see."

Whoever prevails at Fir Park next week will face a glamour showdown with Europa League runners-up Freiburg in the play-off round.

"To be able to play at home, at Fir Park, with all of our people in the stands, it's something obviously to look forward to," said Johansson.

"That's something for next week."

TAKING STOK: Dejected Rangers players react after seeing their lead evaporate in Poland.

Rangers stumble to defeat in Poland

Jagiellonia Bialystok 2
Rangers 1

BY RONNIE ESPLIN

Derek McInnes claimed Rangers beat themselves in surrendering an early Europa League lead to lose 2-1 to Jagiellonia Bialystok in Poland.

The 55-year-old's first European tie as Gers boss got off to a perfect start in the first leg of the third qualifier when home defender Guilherme Montoia turned a Tuur Rommens cross into his own net after just four minutes.

However, Kajetan Szmyt levelled in the 13th minute then added a second eight minutes later after more defensive slackness in the Light Blues' ranks.

McInnes, pictured right, told RangersTV: "Brilliant start. I thought we had good moments in that opening period.

"Quite assured in what we're trying to do, everything we were kind of looking for was there, but we gave up too many chances. Two mistakes for the goals and it allows us to lose an element of control of the game.

"The simplicity of what we wanted to do was there at times, and then we complicated it.

"So for me we beat ourselves tonight, it's not good enough."

The Gers boss brought on Cammy Devlin, Nico Raskin and Findlay Curtis for the second half which brought improvement, with the latter striking the post in added time, but McInnes now needs to see his side improve further to turn the tie around next week at Ibrox, where a meeting with Larne or Iberia Tbilisi awaits the winners.

"I know it's a two-leg thing and we don't go and throw the kitchen sink at it, because we know we can win the game next week at Ibrox and we had chances," he said. "We were better second half, and we get a clean sheet second half

which we were looking for.

"But there's still too many times when we lose the ball in promising situations, in and around their box, and it still becomes a chance for the opposition, and that can't be right.

"And that, for me, is lack of organisation, lack of talking, lack of anticipation, and it has to improve. I am not going to watch us give up so many chances through our own mistakes and through our own efforts.

"So, yes, there's some positives, but we're not here to get pats on the back for a second-half performance.

"And there was the elements of the game where we were okay and I do believe we can win the game next week and get through, but we have got to stop giving teams too much encouragement, and that's on us. We beat ourselves tonight."

Before the second leg, Rangers face Hibernian in the William Hill Premiership at Ibrox on Sunday and the former Hearts boss said: "I think we will get better as we go along.

"And then playing with that competitive edge tonight will make us better for Sunday, and then for the second leg, but we've put ourselves in a position where we need a big performance next week at Ibrox."

Poor Hearts hit for six by rampant Benfica

BENFICA 6
HEARTS 1

Hearts endured a predictably bruising evening in Lisbon as their hopes of progressing to the Europa League were all but ended by a 6-1 thrashing at the hands of Benfica.

After a largely demoralising summer since being pipped to the William Hill Premiership title by Celtic in May, 1,300 embattled Jambos travelled to the Portuguese capital for one of their most formidable-looking fixtures in living memory braced for a fourth consecutive defeat under new boss Wouter Vrancken.

And that was exactly what transpired as Marco Silva's Benfica opened the scoring in the third minute, led by three at the break and then added another three in the second half to remove all sense of jeopardy from next Thursday's second leg at Tynecastle.

Rafa Silva slotted home the opener after Leandro Barreiro burst on to Alexander Bah's pass and cut the ball back from the right.

Benfica continued to pepper the visitors' goal though as Beau Reus made three impressive saves, before the visitors doubled their lead in the 23rd minute through Tomas Araujo's header.

Vangelis Pavlidis netted the third from the spot after Laruent Mendy pulled back Gianluca Prestianni and the latter added the fourth on 58 minutes.

Tom Renaud drove home a consolation on 72 minutes, however Jhon Duran and a late Andreas Schjelderup penalty completed a miserable night for Hearts.

Hearts' Beau Reus.

O'Hora nets late on as Hibs edge Shkendija

HIBERNIAN 2
SHKENDIJA 1

Hibernian will take a valuable lead to North Macedonia for the second leg of their Conference League third qualifying round clash after overcoming Shkendija 2-1.

Hibs had gone in front in the 73rd minute through Owen Elding, only for the visitors to level less than three minutes later courtesy of Marko Gjorgjievski.

However, Warren O'Hora notched a 90th-minute winner when he bundled in a Jordan Obita corner to leave Hibs in a good position to reach the competition's play-off round when they make the trip to Skopje for the second leg.

The visitors made a confident start but that soon faded away as Hibs began to settle, and their first meaningful opportunity came after 13 minutes when Adam Mayor floated a free-kick to the back post. Jason Kerr connected but his header bounced wide.

The frustration among the Hibs support was evident during the first half and there were more groans after the break as they made their feelings clear about their team's decision-making.

Substitute Callum Wright looked lively and he made the difference in the 73rd minute when he got to the bye line before his dangerous low pass was flicked in with an audacious back heel from Elding.

However, Hibs' joy was short lived after the visitors levelled less than three minutes later. Captain Arvin Zejnullai sprang clear before feeding Gjorgjievski and the substitute clipped the ball past Sallinger from a tight angle.

O'Hora, though, grabbed a precious 90th-minute winner.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Stuart Kettlewell has an almost fully-fit squad.

Kettlewell wary of a wounded Montrose in League One contest

Manager Stuart Kettlewell insists Ross County must be wary of a "wounded animal" when Montrose head north on League One duty this weekend.

The Gable Endies, bossed by ex-Staggies attacker Stewart Petrie, suffered an opening day 5-0 defeat against Hamilton Academical on Saturday, while County got off the mark with a 1-0 win at Peterhead.

Yet Montrose got their competitive campaign off to a flying start in the Premier Sports Cup, beating Premiership Dundee United 1-0, Stirling Albion of League Two by a 2-0 scoreline, and beating Championship opponents and local rivals Arbroath 2-0.

A 2-0 loss against League Two Spartans ensure they didn't advance in the cup, unlike County, who won their group to line up a second-round tie next weekend at Championship hosts Dunfermline Athletic.

Ahead of the second league game of the season, Kettlewell has seen enough from Montrose to know that they can cause problems, with an added fire in their bellies after their defeat by Accies.

He said: "Montrose have a good group with good experience.

"They have guys who have been exposed to football in higher divisions. In Stewart Petrie, they have a really good manager, and they are a very well-run football club.

"It was a difficult day for them last Saturday, but you always have to be wary of the wounded animal. We watched that game back and some of their earlier games and they have got good qualities.

"Saturday was a bad day for them. I won't dress it up and neither will Stewart Petrie, I would imagine.

"That would mean a probable reset in their thinking and approach. I envisage a difficult game here on Saturday."

Defensive midfielder Chris Hamilton, who was a summer signing from Dunfermline Athletic, has yet to feature for the Staggies.

The former Pars' vice-captain, 25, has been working his way back from a pre-season knee injury and, although he won't face Montrose, is getting closer to pushing for squad selection.

Kettlewell added: "Chris has trained this week and has been looking good.

"He has trained extra after the sessions, which is also good.

"Chris won't be available this week. He gets another bout of treatment at the end of this week, which means he will have to have a day or so recovery after that.

"I think we only have one young player injured but every other player is fit and available at this moment in time, which is testament to the players and the medical staff."

Shinnie has immediate impact on ICT return

BY PAUL CHALK

Caley Thistle boss Scott Kellacher hailed the impact of ex-Aberdeen skipper Graeme Shinnie just two months after his return to Inverness.

The midfielder, who has captained both clubs to Scottish Cup triumphs, rejoined his first senior club this summer.

Shinnie, who has just turned 35, joins former Dons player Ryan Duncan as a recent arrival in the Highlands, while Aberdeen duo Alfie Bavidge and Alfie Stewart are also back on loan.

Kellacher, whose team travel to Arbroath for the second Championship game this season on Saturday, was full of praise for Shinnie, who was his first signing of the pre-season.

He said: "Graeme had a massive impact – exactly the impact I knew that he would have.

"I knew how important it was to get him to the club.

"I know what he's like as a character and what he is like in the dressing room, but most importantly I know what he's like on the pitch.

"He gives you everything he's got. He's good to have around the club, always positive, upbeat and he takes that onto the field.

"You see the hard work he puts in. He's a fantastic footballer with the career he has had.

"To have him here, that rubs off on all the younger ones as well and then they start to take their standards higher as well.

"He's been massive and there are a few others in that dressing room who are as well, like Danny Devine and one or two others.

"(He's the guy who captained the club to the Scottish Cup 11 years ago) and, even more so, with him doing it at Aberdeen as well.

"He's back here helping our younger ones, the likes of Alfie Stewart, Alfie Bavidge and Ryan Duncan, who were at Aberdeen and think so much of him.

"When he speaks to them, they listen. He's been terrific for everyone in that dressing room, including myself."

Inverness have the current longest unbeaten run in Scottish football, stretching back 19 games, as they won League One last term, despite a five-point deduction.

Kellacher, above, whose team did everything positive bar score in a 0-0 draw with Dunfermline Athletic last week, says his players will be doing their best to ensure they reach the 20-mark by tea-time on Saturday.

He said: "I don't really keep track of these things, but I got told that yesterday. It dates back to League One and we want to continue it in the Championship.

"There's no getting away from it, it's a brilliant record and I'm delighted with it.

"They all come to an end at some point, but we'll be trying our best to make sure it is not this weekend, and we'll be trying to keep that run going as long as we possibly can.

"It is a good habit to be in, not losing games of football and if you can keep picking up three points or one, chipping away – like last Saturday which got us off and running.

"In the previous two years we've been on minus at this point, so it is a nice fresh start."

Kellacher believes his squad can head to Gayfield in upbeat mood, but wary of their hosts.

He added: "After last week's performance, we have got to be positive.

"Arbroath has always been a hard place to go. You don't know what you will get weather-wise, which can be a key factor.

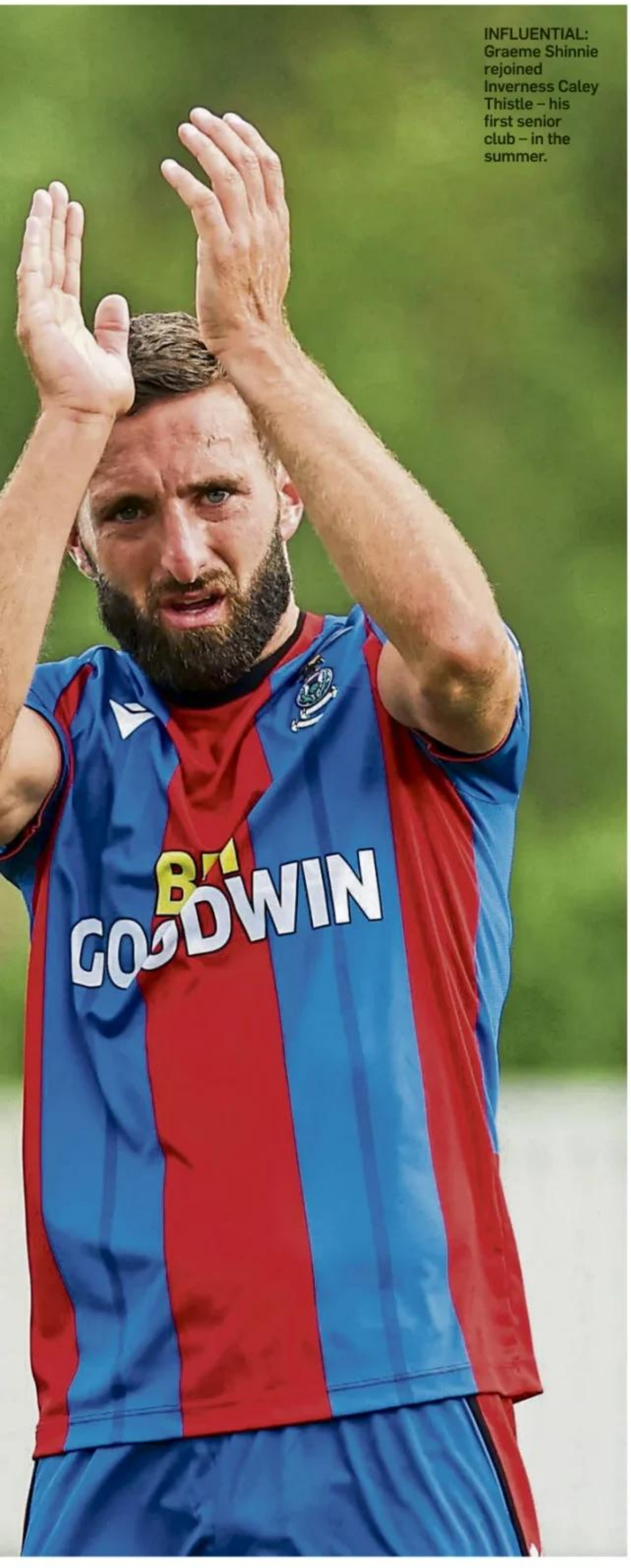
"Colin Hamilton and David Gold (Arbroath co-managers) have done a great job there.

"We will go there with confidence on the back of last week. We need to build on that.

"We just need to be more ruthless in front of goal. We created enough chances to win a couple of games, and we did not take them, which was frustrating."

"We're getting into good areas and the performance all-round was good."

Midfielder Paul Allan, who missed last week through illness and injury, has trained so could be in contention for the match at Arbroath.



INFLUENTIAL: Graeme Shinnie rejoined Inverness Caley Thistle – his first senior club – in the summer.

Keeping skipper will be Celts' best deal – Mulgrew

Callum McGregor remaining at Celtic represents the club's most important piece of summer business, according to former Hoops defender Charlie Mulgrew.

After switching agents recently, the Parkhead captain had been linked with a possible move to the Saudi Arabian Pro League, where two of his former bosses, Brendan Rodgers and Ange Postecoglou, are in charge of Al Qadsiah and Al-Nassr respectively.

However, any uncertainty around the future of the 33-year-old midfielder ended following talks with Celtic chief executive Michael Nicholson, and manager Martin O'Neill confirming McGregor told him he wants to remain at the club.

Callum McGregor is set to remain at Celtic Park.

O'Neill has only recruited two strikers so far this summer, Camilo Duran, the Colombian striker signed from Qarabag of Azerbaijan reportedly for £5.5million, and Kasper Hogh, the Denmark forward who cost a club record £11m plus add-ons from Norwegian side Bodo/Glimt.

Mulgrew believes McGregor, who came through the club's academy, remains crucial to Celtic continuing succcess.

The Premier Sports pundit said: "For me, he's the key player. He's the leader in that changing room.

"He deserved so much credit for the success last year, considering all the things that went against them with the manager situations.

"Three different managers and injuries. Callum McGregor was a mainstay in the team and he stood up and really led by example.

"When you lose your captain at any team, it's difficult. It's somebody with so much influence, so much experience of winning.

"It'd be a huge loss for Celtic. And if it's looking like he's going to stay, then that's the best signing of the season."

While a debate about the pathway for young players in Scottish football has re-emerged, Mulgrew is in no doubt as to the importance to Celtic of homegrown talent.

The former Scotland, Aberdeen and Blackburn player, also a product of Celtic's youth academy, said: "I think we do underestimate how much you need Scottish players.

"You need Scottish players that know what it's like to play for Celtic or Rangers. It's not always easy to find, but who know what the Scottish league's like."

● Mulgrew was promoting Premier Sports' coverage of Scottish football, including more than 80 games in the Premiership, Premier Sports Cup and Scottish Cup. Fans can get a season's coverage for £99 using promo code FITBA26.

Saints looking for further recruits with Bosnian to make Perth switch

St Johnstone boss Simo Valakari has delivered a fresh update on the transfer front, with work ongoing to seal a deal for Enes Alic.

Saints hope to be able to confirm the signing of the Bosnian left-back, who has already undergone a medical, in the coming days.

But Alic is not the only addition the Perth side want to make before the window closes.

Another striker remains top of Saints' shopping list, while Valakari is also keen to add to his midfield and wide options.

But the Perth head coach accepts that, with the squad numbers now at his disposal, outgoings may be required.

"We hope to bring in new signings and we know how the dynamics of the window work," said the Finn.

"I am pleased with my squad but you are always looking to improve.

"You can't always just rely on bringing new players in because my job and the job of the coaches is to improve the players we already have.

"But you always need to be looking for new players, people who can add something to the squad and help it improve.

"That is what we are trying to do with our recruitment between now and the end of the window.

"We have everyone fit now so the squad will look a bit bloated and that is not good either.

"Players want to play football so we'll have to see if there are outgoings too."

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

McGinn leaves his role at Blue Toon

Peterhead player-coach Niall McGinn has left the club take up a new role as full-time coach with League of Ireland club Derry City.

McGinn, who also worked as a coach in Aberdeen's youth academy, took on coaching duties at Balmoral Stadium in the summer.

The Blue Toon released a statement to confirm McGinn's departure.

It read: "Although Niall's time at Balmoor in a coaching capacity has been cut short, he has made a positive impression throughout the club.

"His experience and professionalism have been invaluable within our first-team environment, both as a member of the coaching staff and whenever called upon as a player.

"Niall has also made a fantastic contribution away from the first team through his work with Peterhead FC Community Foundation, where he has helped coach and inspire young people across the local area.

"While we are naturally disappointed to see him leave, this is a wonderful opportunity for Niall to continue developing his coaching career in a full-time role at a club he knows well."

McGinn, who played for Derry in the 2008-09 season, will assist interim first-team boss Mark Connolly and the academy at Derry City.

Aberdeen new men need some arrogance for a big club – Byrne

IMPRESSION: Dan Happe,

BY SEAN WALLACE

Aberdeen's summer signings must play with arrogance to take the club to the next level, insists former Don Richie Byrne.

Boss Stephen Robinson has secured 12 players, all on permanent contracts, in a summer transfer window squad overhaul.

Former left-back Byrne warns the size of Aberdeen and the expectation to deliver success can often be overwhelming for new signings.

He says the summer arrivals must rapidly embrace that pressure.

And also realise they were signed because Robinson believes they are good enough to shine for the Dons.

Now they have to repay the manager's faith by hauling Aberdeen back to where they belong – the European stage.

Robinson fielded nine summer signings in the starting XI of the 2-1 win against Hearts in the Premiership opener.

Byrne said: "When I was at Aberdeen I realised you need to have a bit of arrogance about you when you sign for them.

"You have to realise you are at the club for a reason, because you are good enough to play for Aberdeen.

"So you have to go out and show that.

"I knew Aberdeen was a big club before I signed as I had been up to Pittodrie a few times when I was with Dunfermline.

"However, it is only when you sign for Aberdeen and live there you realise just how big a club it actually is.

"And how absolutely vital it is for the city and the supporters.

"That's why you have to make sure every team that comes to Pittodrie has to do something special if they are going to beat you."

Aberdeen changed strategy for the summer transfer window with more focus on securing signings with previous experience of the Scottish Premiership.

There has been a move away from a previous approach of signing young "project players" from overseas.

That pivot came following a disastrous 2025-26 season where the Dons were threatened with a potential relegation play-off battle.

Robinson was appointed manager in March with safeguarding Aberdeen's Premiership status his initial remit.

Brad Lyons rises for a header in the victory over the Jambos.

After delivering top-flight security Robinson quickly moved on to reconstructing the squad.

Robinson's new-look side have won all five of their games this season, one in the Premiership and four in the Premier Sports Cup group.

Byrne, who played for the Dons from 2005 to 2008, said: "At Aberdeen a lot of importance is placed on results and performances.

"There is an expectation from fans placed on players as there has to be a return in the league and cups.

"And there is also a desire for the club to recreate the success of the past.

"However, that is difficult because they don't have the money of Celtic or Rangers.

"Obviously you have to be realistic that Aberdeen are not going to compete at the level when Willie Miller and Alex McLeish were there.

"But they still want to do well, to get into Europe and then do something at that level.

"That has to be the target."

Whilst Byrne was at Aberdeen under Jimmy Calderwood the club progressed past Dnipro to reach the Uefa Cup group stages in 2007.

In their group they faced Panathinaikos, Lokomotiv Moscow, Atletico Madrid and FC Copenhagen.

Aberdeen secured qualification from the group with a stunning 4-0 humbling of FC Copenhagen at Pittodrie, with Jamie Smith scoring twice.

Byrne played the entire 90 minutes against the Danish side.

That win set up a glamour tie with German Bundesliga giants Bayern

Tony Yogane meets the Aberdeen support.

Robinson confident he has players

From Back Page

He said: "It's something I didn't have at other clubs - match-winners, people that go past people.

"That's what you pay good money for: a young boy with huge, huge potential."

In Yogane and 26-year-old Lewis Smith – signed from Livingston – Robinson believes Aberdeen have wide attackers who will "excite" the Red Army.

Smith made a crucial impact off the bench in the victory over Hearts, including the hooked pass to Toyosi Olusanya which led to the Dons' winning penalty.

With Aberdeen still understood to be in the market for another wide addition in the summer transfer window, Robinson said: "He's exciting. He excites the crowd – if I'm sitting in the crowd, I want people to go 1v1 against people, I want them to be creative.

"Certainly, he gets people off their seats, which is what we want.

one of Aberdeen's summer recruits, shields the ball in the opening league win over Hearts.

Munich with the Reds drawing 2-2 in the Granite City.

Calderwood's side lost 5-1 in the second leg in Munich.

Byrne said: "That Aberdeen team under Jimmy had a tremendous bond and camaraderie.

"I think we overperformed a little in comparison to some of the other clubs with the wages they were giving out.

"We made Copenhagen look very average.

"And they had beaten Manchester United (1-0, Champions League) the year before.

"Copenhagen looked so ragged against us.

"Maybe they came in with a big-time attitude and thought they could just pop us off the park.

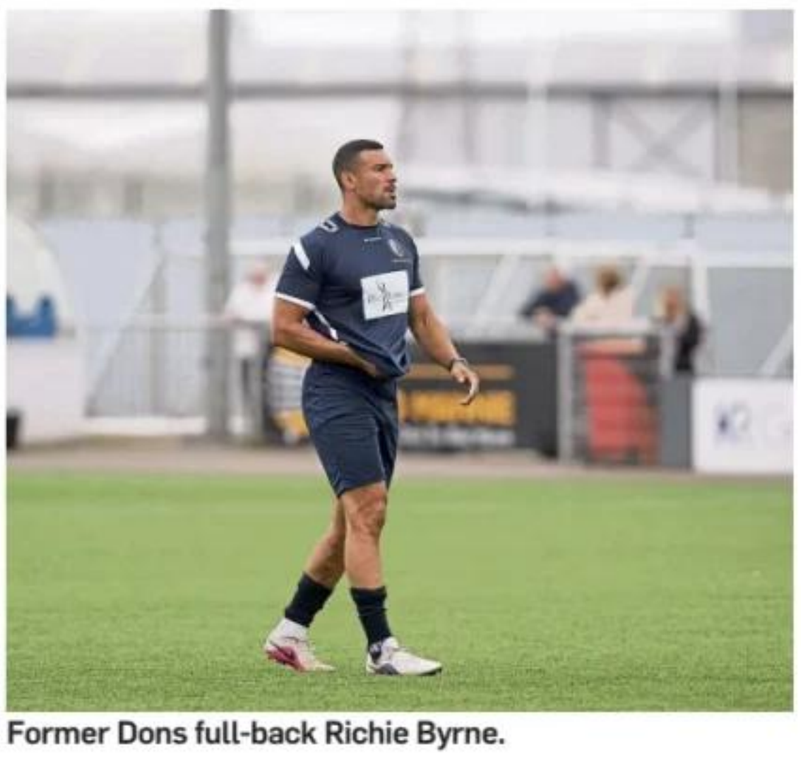
"Jamie Smith made some amazing runs, always got to the ball first and scored some great goals.

"Lee Miller was the start of it as he won so many headers.

"Lee was unbelievable against Copenhagen - his timing for headers, I've never seen anything like it.

"Even though Lee was smaller than the centre-halves he jumped so early and just got that flick on.

"It was impossible to stop."



Former Dons full-back Richie Byrne.

who can get Red Army off their seats at Pittodrie

"Lewis Smith on the other side can do that as well.

"Lewis is still getting his game-time under his belt and still getting that match sharpness, which Tony's had a bit of a head start on him. But I'm excited about both boys. And Andrew (Fasanya) is in contention for those roles as well."

Following his return to England from Dens Park, Aberdeen are understood to have been just one of the transfer suitors for Yogane.

Robinson revealed the winger passed his career-long test in negotiations with potential signings, it only taking one phone call between between boss and player for the prospective arrival to show they are hungry to join.

"I always go by my signings," Robinson explained, "(that if) I have to convince them and there's more than one phone call, (then) don't sign them.

"It's been something that I've always done in football.

"(Don't sign them) if you have to beg somebody to come and play for you, or they ever think they're coming to do you a favour, which you have to be careful about when we get all excited about people that come from bigger clubs in different leagues.

"We want them to have that drive."

Yoro must wait for Tangerines debut

Abdoulaye Yoro.

Jim Goodwin has confirmed that Sunday's trip to Hearts will come too soon for incoming midfielder Abdoulaye Yoro.

The Ivorian youngster, who has agreed a season-long loan deal from Turkish side Basaksehir FK, will touch down in Scotland this morning after receiving his visa and is expected to be quickly integrated with Goodwin's group.

Yoro, 19, may have a watching brief at Tynecastle but, given the Tangerines have undertaken all of their preparatory work, he will not be in line to make his debut.

That could come against Celtic in the Premier Sports Cup next weekend.

"He (Yoro) won't come in for Sunday, but it would be good to have him as part of the group, with a view to going into next week – a very big cup game," confirmed Goodwin.

"It's taken a little bit longer than we would have liked but, as always with the red tape, it's out of our control."

Nevertheless, Goodwin is thrilled by the impending arrival of summer signing number 11.

Yoro scored seven goals in 30 appearances for Georgian outfit Dinamo Tblisi last term, latterly playing under Temuri Ketsbaia after the ex-Dundee hero took the reins in April.

And Goodwin believes he will bring energy, creativity and an eye for goal to the United engine room.

"He's a young player, only 19, but had a really good first senior season last year," continued Goodwin. "He played 30 games and chipped in seven goals, so he's a creative midfielder and, being left-sided, adds a bit of balance in there.

"We don't have loads of lefties within the squad.

"Abdoulaye can play a number of different positions in the middle; deeper in a six or as an eight and even as a ten at times. But he is always a very positive midfielder; someone who wants to go and drive at people and wants to make things happen.

"He'll play forward and run forward, which fits into the kind of ethos that we've tried to implement during pre-season."

While Yoro is a relative rookie, Goodwin is adamant he will reap the rewards of a campaign with Dinamo – 16-time Georgian champions – and the lofty expectations at that club, even if they did fall short of those with a fourth-placed top-flight finish last term.

"I've got really high hopes for him, and I think the loan last year (at Tblisi) was perfect," continued Goodwin.

"This season is a step up again, in terms of the leagues that he's playing in, so it'll be very interesting to see how he handles it. We're excited to get him in. It's going to be another very good option for us.

"Playing for a club like Tblisi; he's had that level of expectation with a big, ambitious club, and quite hostile environments out there as well in Georgia. So, he's very mature for his age and spoke really well on the call that I had with him."

Meanwhile, Lachie Rose and Bert Esselink are both back in full training and ready to face Hearts. Dario Naamo is set to miss out once more, with Goodwin noting: "We were thinking he would make it for Sunday but it's (groin) taking a little bit longer. But it's nothing serious."

Sport

The Press and Journal

Friday, August 7, 2026

Shire and Huntly face off at the summit

Page 44

32

9 772051 105751 E

Mixed night for Scottish sides in Europe – Pages 50-51

Patience needed with Reds' Yogane

BY RYAN CRYLE

Aberdeen boss Stephen Robinson has asked fans to be patient with "game-changer" Tony Yogane – revealing the winger passed the test he has always used when lining up potential signings.

The Dons secured Yogane – who spent last term on loan at Premiership rivals Dundee – from Brentford on a deal until 2030 as part of their summer transfer window rebuild.

Englishman Yogane has yet to find the net for Aberdeen but the fast and technical left-sided wideman has shown flashes of the ability he displayed with Dundee last season already in his Dons career.

Yogane started the Reds' top-flight opener against Hearts at Pittodrie on Saturday, which Robinson's side came back to win with two last-gasp goals.

Head coach Robinson says it is important to remember, while Aberdeen are "expecting big things of him", Yogane is still only 20.

Robinson said: "He's a game-changer, Tony. He's a lovely boy, who takes all the information on board. (But) it's only his second season in professional football.

"He's 20 years of age, so I'm conscious of putting too much pressure on him.

"But he's a joy to watch at times – he glides past players.

"He has enthusiasm for the game, he wants more, so we're expecting big things from him.

"But again, we have to dip him in and out at times as well."

Robinson, who was appointed as Aberdeen boss from St Mirren in March, thinks Yogane represents the type of signing now available to him due to the Dons' greater resources.

Continued on Page 54

Congested leaderboard in Seniors Champs

Pages 46-47

Shinnie is already making an ICT impact

Pages 52-53

Uefa stand by boycott after Fifa's Infantino backing – Page 49

Friday, August 7, 2026

What's On

Playing it for laughs

Hats fly on and off as five-strong cast take on every role in spy musical

Inside: Cavern Club to Tivoli for Beatles tribute

The P&J

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Operation Mincemeat

'TRIBUTE': Operation Mincemeat stars, from left, Charlotte Hanna-Williams, Jamie-Rose Monk, Sean Carey, Holly Sugden and Christian Andrews. Picture by Matt Crockett.

BY ANDREW WELSH

Appearing in a new touring version of the hottest West End show in years would certainly appear to be no cakewalk.

Remarkably, five actors take on around 60 roles between them in Operation Mincemeat, which won the Olivier Award for best new musical in 2024.

"There's a lot of quick changes and hats flying on and off, and different accents and stuff," grins Sean Carey, one of the stars of the laugh-out-loud wartime spy thriller.

"It's quite intense, and it's funny, but it's not mean-spirited – it's very respectful.

"People from different class backgrounds have a part to play, from an Etonian MI5 agent to a homeless man who suffered in his life but who in his death saved hundreds of thousands of lives, and the women of the war as well.

"I've worked a lot with Mischief Theatre, the creators of The Play That Goes Wrong. I did another show of theirs, The Comedy About A Bank Robbery, so I've kind of spent the last 10 years just throwing myself around stages and hanging upside-down and switching characters."

Drawing on such diverse reference points as classic British war films, 80s sitcom 'Allo 'Allo! and surrealist performers like Monty Python, Operation Mincemeat started out as a tiny production in London in 2019 and quickly attracted a cult following.

Following the lifting of pandemic restrictions, it made its West End debut in May 2023 and has been a sell-out ever since, earning dozens of nominations.

"I became part of the show when it was in its final fringe iteration in 2022," adds Sean, 47.

"Because of a last-minute injury to one of the principal characters who was also one of the writers, a call went out to find a replacement for a few months and I ended up being asked to audition.

"I had to learn the role in six days when I got the gig, which was wild."

Also currently playing on Broadway with an all-American cast, Operation Mincemeat is based on a real-life British intelligence operation during the Second World War that saw a body dressed as a Royal Marines officer being secreted in waters off the Spanish coast to fool the Nazis.

Along with fake personal items like photos, letters and receipts, the bogus airman's clothing also contained false documents designed to disguise the 1943 Allied invasion of Sicily by hinting that the Allies planned to invade Greece and Sardinia instead.

In the hands of the SplitLip writing team – David Cumming, Felix Hagan, Natasha Hodgson and Zoe Roberts – the intriguing Second World War episode becomes a madcap, gender-swapping satire, with more than a few moments of genuine poignancy.

"The show taps into a sense of Britishness and is as funny as it is moving," declares Irishman Sean.

"It's a crazy story with macabre elements that are really comedic, but we're

is madcap and moving

incredibly respectful of how we tell it and pay tribute to the people who were involved in the operation.

"I play Charles Cholmondeley, the architect of Operation Mincemeat, who worked very closely with Ewen Montagu, who is played by the wonderful Holly Sugden.

"Charles is quite timid at the start, very nervous and almost paralysed by possibility because he's so intelligent and thinks through everything.

"He meets Montagu, who's a bit of a showman, and they complement each other and form a double act capable of getting the plan off the ground."

Sean is also joined in the Mincemeat cast by the up-and-coming Christian Andrews, whose roles include that of MI5 secretarial head Hester Leggatt and American pilot Willy Watkins, who conveniently crash-lands in Spain at the same time as the British deception campaign.

"It's a great story and the comedy is very old school," says the Welshman, who started as an understudy in Operation Mincemeat in 2023 before stepping up to principal status.

"It's very reminiscent of 'Allo 'Allo, but it's also quite a modern piece as well, sort of multi-genre – the music moves from 40s big band to rap, pop and technopop, as well as classic musical theatre ballads.

"We play so many characters because we're trying to tell this multifaceted story and the writers have done such a great job to use different musical genres to tell their stories, as well as keeping that classic wartime feeling in the comedy."

Having been working continuously since starting rehearsals in January, it's little wonder both actors are looking forward to a couple of weeks off when the first leg of the show's debut UK tour concludes next week.

Before then, there's the small matter of eight Aberdeen performances in five days – as Sean puts it, of "a musical that shouldn't work, about a plan that shouldn't have worked".

He adds: "What Operation Mincemeat does really well is acknowledge that certain people came from certain privileged backgrounds and as a result had opportunities that others didn't have.

"There's a bombast and an arrogance, but it also acknowledges these people did something brilliant and came up with this plan and they had their part to play, just as people from less privileged backgrounds did as well.

"So it's basically a musical tribute to the war effort.

"History books often only mention the people at the top, but this show gives everyone their moment in the spotlight.

"It also has moments of poignancy that creep up behind you and kind of absolutely floor you out of nowhere. That's what really sets it apart."

■ Operation Mincemeat is at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, from August 11-15. See aberdeenperformingarts.com for tickets.

Quick changes are required for the five actors starring in the laugh-out-loud musical Operation Mincemeat as they take on around 60 roles between them.

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Friday, August 7, 2026

Cavern gig saw Beatles band in at the deep end

COME TOGETHER: Fab Four tribute band Just Beatles are set to play The Tivoli Theatre in Aberdeen later this month.

Just Beatles feature Dougie Orr as Paul McCartney, Dave Bernthal as George Harrison, Stevie Hunter as John Lennon and Gary McAuley as Ringo Starr.

BY SEAN WALLACE

There is no greater test for a tribute band to The Beatles than playing the iconic venue in Liverpool renowned as the birthplace of the Fab Four.

Yet Scottish tribute band Just Beatles jumped into the deep end by playing the legendary Cavern Club in one of their first concerts.

Just Beatles are now regular performers at the annual Liverpool Beatle Week at the venue.

The Beatles made 292 appearances at the club between February 1961 and August 1963 before their music swept across the world.

Guitarist and singer Dave Bernthal said: "One of our first gigs was at The Cavern in Liverpool.

"We performed at Beatle Week where all the tribute bands play seven or eight times over a long weekend.

"We dropped ourselves right in at the deep end with that.

"However, it was a fantastic experience and we continued our success from there really.

"When you get on stage at The Cavern you get a special feeling."

Formed in 2012, Just Beatles have also performed at the clubs in Hamburg where The Beatles, with original drummer Pete Best, were based in the early 1960s.

The Beatles played a 56-night run at the Kaiserkeller venue in the German city which ended on November 30 1960.

The Fab Four alternated sets with Rory Storm and the Hurricanes, another Liverpudlian band featuring Ringo Starr on drums.

Ringo would later go on to join The Beatles, replacing Best. Dave said: "Hamburg was brilliant as we played the Kaiserkeller, which is exactly the same is it was in the 1960s when The Beatles played.

"We were shown places in the venue where The Beatles used to sit, things like that, which was great.

"The Kaiserkeller is on the Reeperbahn in Hamburg.

"I don't know what it was like back then, but it is mad now. Playing Hamburg is a really fond memory for us.

"We have also played festivals in France and Belgium and it's amazing to see how many people want to listen to The Beatles tribute bands all day... and all night.

"Thankfully, we've had a lot of fortune with the festivals we've played, as not a lot of other bands get that chance."

The Beatles released debut single Love Me Do in 1962 and it was the catalyst for Beatlemania, where they became the biggest band in the world.

In the next eight years, until splitting in 1970, their advancement in sound was unprecedented.

The Beatles pushed the envelope with ground-breaking albums including Revolver, Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band and The Beatles (The White Album).

Their final album Let It Be was released in 1970.

Just Beatles' show encapsulates all aspects of the Fab Four's career, from the early hits to psychedelic experimentalism in the final years.

Dave said: "We perform songs from the early stuff right up to the Abbey Road and the rooftop gig (Apple Corps headquarters, Savile Row, London).

"The Beatles' catalogue is enormous, so we try to do a bit from each year.

"It's just the four of us and we try to recreate it as best we can live using pedals on the guitar when there are orchestras and things like that.

"Our whole show is completely live and there's no backing tracks, which we are proud of.

"I do the George Harrison parts. There are the four of us and we all have our own parts, be it John, Paul, George or Ringo, although we don't look like The Beatles.

"However, we put the suits on and different costumes to add to the whole vibe."

The Beatles are the best-selling music act of all time, with more than 600 million records sold.

From such a vast catalogue, what are Dave's favourites to perform?

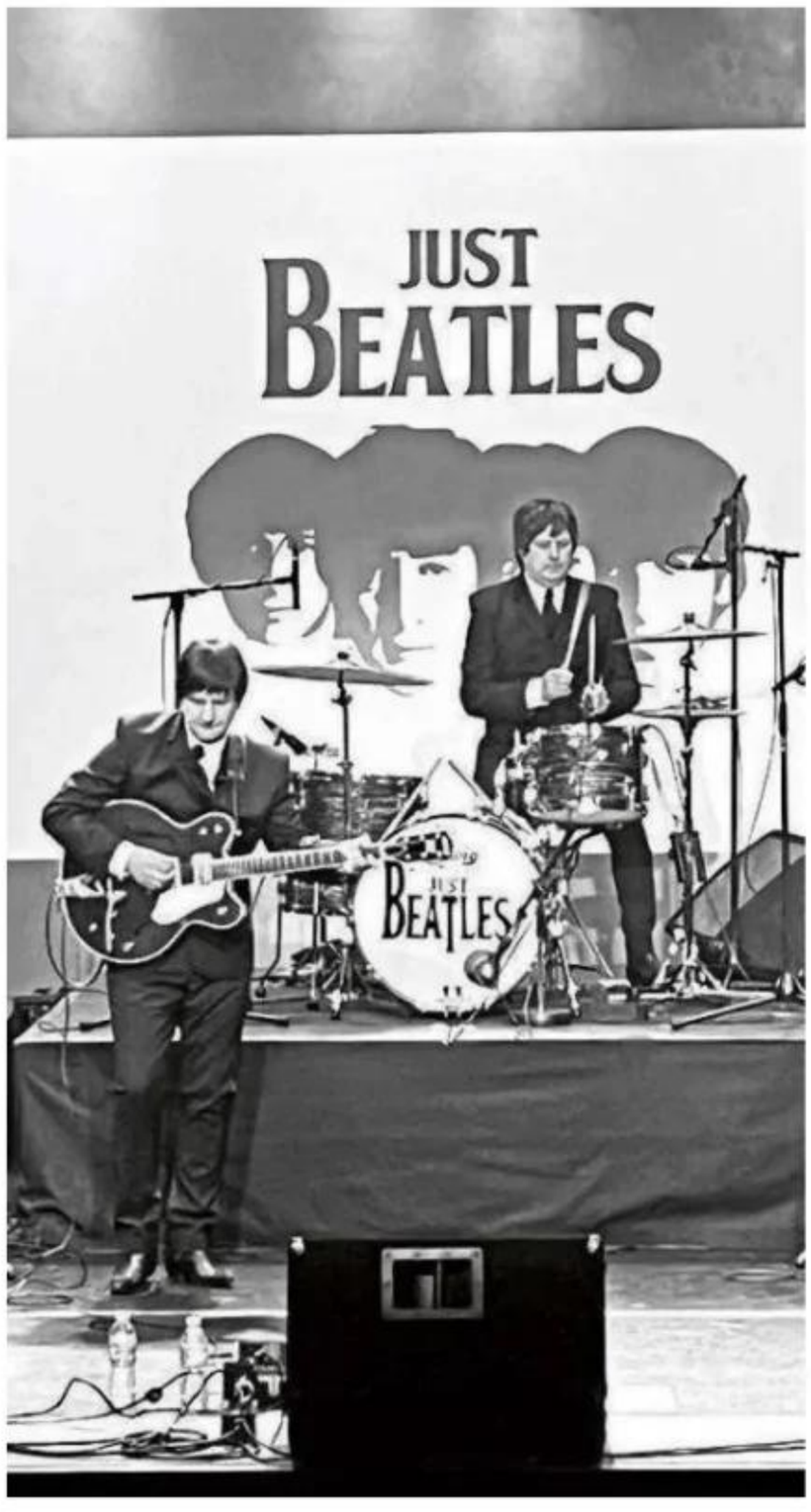
He said: "I really like A Day In The Life and also Get Back.

"It's so hard to pick a favourite, but the later stuff appeals to me a bit more.

"It will be great to be back at The Tivoli.

"We always have a great night in Aberdeen and the crowd are always well up for it."

■ **Just Beatles play The Tivoli in Aberdeen on Saturday August 8. thetivolitheatre.com**



RESCUE MISSION: Chase, Skye, Marshall, Rubble, Ryder, Rocky, Rex and Zuma help to save an island from Mayor Humdinger who wants to mine uncut diamonds.

Paw Patrol: The Dino Movie (U)

★★★★★

BY DAMON SMITH

No dino is too big, no pup is too small in a supersized feature film extension of the hugely popular Paw Patrol children's TV series, which goes for a fast-paced gallivant in the Jurassic park by uncovering a hidden island populated by living, breathing prehistoric creatures.

Director Cal Brunker and co-writer Bob Barlen don't waste energy contriving a pseudoscientific explanation for the hulking beasts' existence when a lean 88-minute running time can be devoted to rip-roaring adventure on four and two legs.

Ryder (voiced by Henry Bolan) and Paw Patrol pups Marshall (Carter Young), Chase (Rain Janjua), Rocky (William Desrosiers), Rubble (Lucien Duncan-Reid), Skye (Mckenna Grace) and Zuma (Nylan Parthipan) safely extinguish a fire on a boat, rescuing a family of four and their ungrateful pet cat Mr Fluffybuns.

The jubilant team sail on their floating HQ into a gathering storm that causes instruments on the bridge to malfunction. As a swirling fog lifts, the ship runs aground on an island that doesn't exist on any map.

This lush oasis is filled with wonders long thought extinct, including herds of brachiosaurus and spinosaurus, and a playful T. rex named Timmy, who acts as a steed for shipwrecked pup Rex (Hayden Chamberlen).

He has been trapped on the island for two years and 147 days, and is delighted to welcome fresh, furry faces to his treehouse.

Scientists including Heidi (Jameela Jamil) and Eugenia (Fortune Feimster) from the Paleontology Studies Institute flock to the island to protect the dinosaurs' verdant ecosystem.

However, avaricious Mayor Humdinger (Ron Pardo) plots to mine the island's uncut diamonds with the help of guide Hunter Cutlass (Meredith MacNeill) and explosives expert Alistair Stonewall (Terry Crews).

"When in doubt, we blast it out!" whoops Alistair, planting 1,000 sticks of dynamite that carelessly coax a dormant volcano back to life. Paw Patrol: The Dino Movie is the most exciting and entertaining chapter of the tail-wagging saga to date with kinetic action sequences and sweet sentiment as Marshall learns the value of being the team member who never gives up.

"Sometimes I think you'd be better off without a clumsy pup like me," he laments in a moment of crippling self-doubt.

Cue a gooey flashback to justify the firefighting hound's promotion to lead canine for this expedition.

Brunker and Barlen's script keeps a tight leash on character development besides Marshall, but gentle humour consistently raises a smile.

"I'm a bulldog and this is as fast as I can go," wheezes and puffs poor Rubble as the team races through the jungle to avoid a rampaging predator.

The Dino Movie learns from the best – Toy Story 3 – about how to engineer jeopardy in a fiery final sequence and venerate courage and tenacity.

To quote Ryder: "Buckle up, pups!"

The Paw Patrol gang meet shipwrecked pup Rex, below, when they land on an island which is home to dinosaurs, in this rip-roaring adventure for fans of the kids' TV show.

AROUND TOWN

Brodgar Walk
Ring of Brodgar Stone Circle and Henge, Stenness, Stromness, KW16 3JZ, 01856 841815, until Thu Sep 24, Daily 1-2pm, free. Informative guided walks around Scotland's largest stone circle. Free event, no pre-booking required.

A Costume Drama At Blair Castle Exhibition
Blair Castle & Gardens, Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, PH18 5TL, 01796 481 207, until Fri Oct 30, Daily 10am-5pm, £20 Last entry 3.45pm *(seniors £17.50 60+ years, lst entry 3.45pm; children £12.50 5-16 years, last entry 3.45pm)*. A Costume Drama offers visitors the opportunity to marvel at an impressive selection of professionally designed costumes from some of the country's most popular TV programmes and cinematic productions. What sets this exhibition apart from other similar exhibitions is that each outfit on display here is carefully compared and contrasted with actual clothes worn throughout the centuries by members of the Murray family, whose ancestral home is Blair Castle. atholl-estates.co.uk/blair-castle

Stenness Walk
Stones of Stenness Circle and Henge, Stenness, KW16 3JZ, until Wed Sep 30, Daily 10-11am, free. Join the Rangers for a walk around one of the oldest stone circles, and the nearby neolithic Village of Barnhouse. This event is free and pre-booking is not required.

Celebration Of The Centuries
Fort George, Old Military Road, Ardersier, Inverness, IV2 7TD, 01667 460232. Sat 8 & Sun Aug 9, 11am-5pm, £14.00 *(£11.00; children £9.00)*. Fort George is once again set to host Celebration of the Centuries – our largest re-enactment event. In this weekend long celebration, re-enactors will bring the mighty fortress to life with a living timeline depicting over two thousand years of Scottish history. Wander through the living history camps dating back to Picts and Romans, dance along to our big band in our 1940s zone, and watch as stunt horse riders from the TV series Outlander dramatically tell the tale of the Highlander lady saved from capture by the Redcoats.

Tea Green Summer Market
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200 293. Sat Aug 8, 10am-5pm. Sun Aug 9, 11am-4pm, free. Join Tea Green for an unforgettable Summer Market hosting a dynamic showcase of independent creative businesses across Scotland. Discover a carefully curated selection of luxurious textiles, exquisite jewellery, stunning ceramics, vibrant illustrations, and more! Established in 2014, Tea Green Events has emerged as a leading and prominent pop-up events platform. Over the past decade, they have been committed to championing Scotland's wealth of independent creative talent through thoughtfully curated events across Scotland.

Write Good Night
Downright Gabbler, High Street, Beauly, IV4 7BT, 01463 782800.
Sat Aug 8, 7-10pm, £59. Over a four-course dinner, hear about Scotland's rich tradition of storytelling and the people who contributed most to our wonderful literary heritage. From the earliest writers, through Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott, to more modern authors like Lewis Grassic Gibbon and Nan Shepherd, we celebrate the men and women who kept a distinctive strand of Scottish writing alive.

Banff Fayres
Banff Castle, Castle Street, Banff, AB45 1DL, 01261 815027. Sun Aug 9, Times tbc, free. Banff Fayres are a series of community events held at Banff Castle in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. These fayres typically occur on the second Sunday of each month, offering a vibrant mix of local crafts, food, music, and family activities. They serve as a platform for local artisans and vendors to showcase their products, while also providing a fun and engaging experience for visitors of all ages. banffcastle.co.uk

Lulu takes the stage of the Music Hall in Aberdeen.

Tain Highland Gathering
Glenmorangie Field, Tain. Sun Aug 9, 10am-4pm, £12 Adult *(children £6 Age 5-16; children Under 5)*. Experience the best of Scotland with a day out at the Tain traditional Highland Games. tainhighlandgathering.com

Loch Muick – Evening Walk In The Cairngorms
Ballater Square Carpark, Church Square, Ballater, AB35 5NE, 07753488688. Tue Aug 11, 7-9.30pm, £40. Join us for an expertly guided tour to Loch Muick with minibus collection from the Ballater area. After a scenic drive from Ballater, we begin our walk from the Spittal of Glen Muick car park. The path travels through woodland near the visitor centre, where red deer are often seen moving quietly through the undergrowth. As you continue your walk along the track from the Spittal, Loch Muick stretches out before you like a mirror, perfectly reflecting the deepening twilight sky. Surrounded by steep glens and the broad shoulders of the surrounding hills, the loch offers a stunning Highland vista. We follow the lochside trail to the old boathouse, crossing the outflow of the Loch, River Muick. Our return route takes us past Allt-na-giubhsaich, Queen Victoria's remote lodge, where she and Prince Albert would retreat from Balmoral. Your guide will be on hand throughout to share stories, answer questions, and point out wildlife, plants, and the rich history of this remarkable glen.

Peterhead Trail Guided Walk
Drummers Corner, Peterhead, AB42 1ZP. Tue Aug 11, 11am-1pm, free. Embark on a historic adventure and step back in time as our knowledgeable guide, Pauline, leads you through the streets of Peterhead. From familiar landmarks to stories of krakens and witches, uncover the stories that have shaped this coastal town into what it is today. Explore hidden treasures whilst discovering secret spots that even the locals might not know about! This tour takes you on a journey to reveal the lesser-known tales and intriguing anecdotes that add depth to Peterhead's history. Learn from local expert Pauline, who is a passionate historian and storyteller ready to share her expertise and insights with you. Gain a deeper understanding of the town's heritage, from its modest beginnings to its pivotal role in maritime trade and beyond.

TUNES OF THE NORTH-EAST: Old Blind Dogs perform in Tornaveen Hall, Torphins, this weekend.

Highland Banquet
Downright Gabbler, High Street, Beauly, IV4 7BT, 01463 782800. Thu Aug 13, 7-10.30pm, £99. Enjoy a romp through 12,000 years of Highland history over a seven-course banquet! From the Wars of Independence to the Jacobites, the Clans to the Clearances, you will hear of our heroes and villains, our romantics and our realists. The price includes a seven-course banquet and a paired Highlands drink flight consisting of a Scottish country wine, Highland ale, claret, Scotch single malt whisky and Atholl Brose. A non-alcoholic drinks flight is also available.

ARTS

Collected: Malcolm Appleby MBE
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200293, until Sun Jan 10, Daily Times tbc, free. Malcolm Appleby MBE is one of Scotland's foremost engravers and metalworkers. To mark Appleby's 80th birthday, this display brings together a selection of stunning jewellery and applied art from the collection, including examples of the celebrated Banchory Bangle. Every year since 1976, Appleby has created a bangle inspired by the natural world which has been raffled to support Children First, Scotland. These pieces are shown alongside treasured items on loan to us from private collectors.

Making Waves: Amazing Machines
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200293, until Sun Oct 25, Daily 10am-5pm, £tbc. Push buttons, turn cranks and let your imagination run wild as you explore the captivating art of contemporary automata in our joyful summer exhibition. Discover the fascinating revival of automata-making over the past 40 years in this collection of original automata artworks and artefacts from Cabaret Mechanical Theatre. Combining mechanics, engineering and art, these whimsical sculptures often reflect or humorously comment on our modern world.

Works On Paper: Art And Energy
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200293, until Sun Mar 14, Daily Times tbc, free. From pylons to wind turbines, we live in a world where we are never far away from the monumental infrastructure of the energy industry. This selection of drawings, prints and photographs from the collection explores how artists from the 1970s to the present day have chosen to creatively engage with these physical markers. Work by Sue Jane Taylor, George Mackie, Kate Steenhauer, Donald Addison, Tony Clayden and Fay Godwin will be shown alongside a new commission by Kate Downie RSA. Art and Energy is the second in a series of annual displays highlighting the depth and diversity of Aberdeen Archives, Gallery & Museums' collection of works on paper.

Alfred Buckham – Daredevil Photographer
Duff House, Banff, AB45 3SX, 01261 813004, until Sun Sep 27, Thu-Sun 10am-4.30pm. A trailblazer in his field, Alfred Buckham soared above the realms of what was thought to be possible in 20th century photography and aviation. Meet the man behind some of the most iconic aerial photographs, marvel at the death-defying lengths he took to capture the perfect image, and explore how his innovative techniques paved the way for modern technologies such as Photoshop and AI. historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/duff-house

Artists' Film: Hanna Tuulikki
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200293, until Sun Sep 6, Daily 10am-5pm, free. This series showcases artists' films from our collection. This first chapter focuses on a recent acquisition of Hanna Tuulikki's short film, Seals'kin. Commissioned by the Biennale of Sydney, this is a sonic and choreographic meditation on loss, longing, transformation and kinship. Hanna Tuulikki is a British-Finnish artist, composer and performer based in Scotland.
Her multi-disciplinary projects investigate the ways in which the body communicates beyond and before words, to tell stories through imitation, vocalisation and gesture.

Elevated Dreams
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200293, until Sun Jan 10, Daily 10am-5pm, free. This interdisciplinary installation and performance by Cath Keay *(sculpture)*, Emma Bowen *(film)* and Victoria Hume *(music)* celebrates the extraordinary creativity of Antonia Jabloner *(1908-2022)*. Born in Austria, Jabloner came to the North East of Scotland as a refugee after the outbreak of the Second World War. The exhibition is inspired by sketchbook drawings Jabloner produced during

her long-term confinement in psychiatric care in Aberdeen. Entitled Plans for Another World, the drawings detail her ideal spaces for creative expression.

James Hutton And Glen Tilt Exhibition
Blair Castle & Gardens, Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, PH18 5TL, 01796 481 207, until Fri Oct 30, Daily 10am-5pm, £10 Gardens only ticket, last entry 3.45pm *(children £6.75 5-16 years, Gardens only ticket, last entry 3.45pm)*. Sculptor Jake Harvey and artist Helen Douglas were commissioned by Blair Charitable Trust to create sculptures and printed works using Glen Tilt and the discoveries of the geologist James Hutton in that glen as their inspiration. Their works, alongside various artefacts relating to James Hutton's visit to the glen in 1785, are on display in the Banvie Hall within Blair Castle. It is in the glen running into Blair Castle that Hutton made one of his great discoveries unlocking the theory of deep time. This is the inspiration behind the artists' work and we hope their beautiful work brings Hutton's discovery to life. atholl-estates.co.uk/blair-castle

Strata
WASPS Inverness Creative Academy, Midmills Building, Stephen's Street, Inverness, IV2 3JP, until Mon Aug 31, Daily *(not Sun)* 9am-5pm, £tbc. A major group exhibition on the broad theme of landscape, including artists from all over Scotland. Artists from the Highlands are among those taking part in a show which includes painting, photography, printmaking, textiles and glass. Strata is curated by Visual Arts Scotland, one of Scotland's biggest artist-run organisations, with more than 1,400 members. Entry is free. visualartsscotland.org

Summer Art Exhibition: Lochs And Rivers
Spey Bank Studio, 1 The Square, Grantown-on-Spey, PH26 3HG, 01479873375, until Tue Sep 1, Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, free. Dive into our new summer art show, featuring the best of Cairngorm landscape artists. Our theme this year is Lochs and Rivers, so expect lots of deep blues, vibrant turquoises and shimmering light. Among the names exhibiting are Ally MacKellar, Stephen Redpath, Helen Bruce, Jess Greaves and many more. And with a new gallery layout, there will be more work to see than ever.

Artroom With GHAT
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200293. Sat Aug 8, 10.30am-12.30pm, Pay what you can. Explore art in a relaxed setting with professional artists. Use a range of materials and techniques—no experience needed! These sessions are open to all adults and encourage creativity, experimentation, and wellbeing through making.

COMEDY

Jo Caulfield
Brechin City Hall, 9 Swan Street, Brechin, DD9 6EE, 07783 464005. Fri Aug 7, 7.30-9.30pm, £tbc. Biting and caustic wit from the writer, actress and comedian. jocaulfield.com

DANCE

Edzell Village Gala Ceilidh with Strathmore Ceilidh Band
Inglis Memorial Hall, High Street, Kirriemuir, DD9 7TF. Fri Aug 7, 7pm, £6.00-£12.00. Ceilidh will be held in the Inglis Memorial Hall Edzell with the Strathmore Ceilidh Band playing again this year. Remember to bring your own booze. All tickets will include a lovely plate of homemade stovies.

FAMILY

The Gonks Of Gardenshillock Summer Storybook Trail
Fintray, Aberdeenshire, AB21 0RL, 07564708124. Fri Aug 7-Sun Aug 16, 9am, £3 *(children £13.95)*. Based on the delightful children's book The Gonks of Gardenshillock by Samantha Annal, this enchanting storybook trail invites you to step into the world of the Gonks at Gardenshillock. Wander through the wildflower meadow as you discover the charming homes of your favourite characters, solve their puzzles, and lend a hand with their daily tasks. Little ones can play in the park, get messy in the mud kitchen, and finish the day with a tasty treat at the Coffee Spot. A perfect family day out for the whole family! thegonksofgardenshillock.co.uk

Ballater holds its Victoria Week, with lots of fun activities on offer for all the family.

Ballater Victoria Week
Various venues, Ballater, Ballater, AB35 5QE. Sat Aug 8-Sun Aug 16, Times vary. A week of community-based fun, including live music, sporting events, games, fayres, the Ballater Royal Horticultural Society Show, and much more. ballatervictoriaweek.co.uk

Guthrie's Goslings
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ, 03000 200293. Wed Aug 12, 10.30-11.30am & 2-3pm, £9 One Child and One Adult. Join Guthrie the Goose for our monthly adventure in art. Each session is different, with music, dance, crafts, games and playful surprises to spark young imaginations. We recommend bringing spare clothing for these messy sessions.

MUSIC

Lulu
Music Hall, Union Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1QS, 01224 641122. Fri Aug 7, 7pm, £41-£56. Pop icon, Bond singer and 1969 winner of the Eurovision Song Contest whose singing career spans six decades. luluofficial.com

MacGregor's Taste Of The Highlands
MacGregor's, 109-113 Academy Street, Inverness, IV1 1LX, 01463719629, until Fri Oct 9, Mon, Wed. Fri 1-2pm, £47.50. Discover how we have become the nation of kilts, bagpipes and haggis, and why the Highlands is the cultural heartland of Scotland. This is the real history with traditional music, folk tales, whisky tasting and a four plate tapas style lunch – a true taste of the Highlands. macgregorsbars.com

Shetland Fiddle Week
Islesburgh Community Centre, Isleburgh Complex King Harald Street, Lerwick, ZE1 0EQ, 01595 745555. Fri 7 & Sat Aug 8, 10am, £395 Student Package – all events included. A five-day music school with fiddle workshops led by experienced Shetland musicians. Concerts and sessions take place across the week, featuring some talented local musicians who keep the tradition alive and thriving in the islands. shetlandfiddleweek.com

Under Canvas
Eden Court Theatre and Cinema, Bishop's Road, Inverness, IV3 5SA, 01463 234 234, until Sun Aug 30, Daily Times vary. Eden Court's flagship outdoor summer festival, performed under a big top on the banks of the River Ness, showcasing traditional and contemporary Scottish music. eden-court.co.uk

Aberdeen Sausage And Cider Festival
Hazlehead Park, Aberdeen, AB15 8BJ. Sat Aug 8, times tbc, £tbc. A day of live music featuring some of the UK's best tribute acts, plus a children's tent, DJ set – and, of course, a wide range of sausages and ciders. sausageandciderfest.co.uk/aberdeen

Just Beatles
The Tivoli Theatre, 34-48 Guild Street, Aberdeen, AB11 6NB, 01224 641122. Sat Aug 8, 7.30pm, £25. Scotland's top tribute to The Beatles, who have been wowing crowds across the UK and Europe with their spectacular theatre show for over 10 years. justbeatles.co.uk

A Foreigner's Journey
The Tivoli Theatre, 34-48 Guild Street, Aberdeen, AB11 6NB, 01224 641122. Sun Aug 9, 7.30pm, £23.50. Two-pronged tribute to soft rock titans Journey and Foreigner. foreignersjourney.com/home

Old Blind Dogs
Tornaveen Hall, Tornaveen, Torphins, Banchory, AB31 4PA, 01339 883631. Sun Aug 9, 3-5.30pm, £24. The musical evolution of Old Blind Dogs began in Aberdeen in 1992 with roots that grew from the eclectic music scene that flourished in the Granite City during the early 90's. Four musicians from very different musical backgrounds came together to create a full-time professional touring band, with the aim of showcasing the rich tradition of songs and tunes of the North East of Scotland on an international stage. oldblinddogs.co.uk

Summer In Nashville
Hazlehead Park, Aberdeen, AB15 8BJ. Sun Aug 9, 12-8pmc. New and undiscovered country acts from the USA, along with high-energy tribute acts and other entertainment including line dancing, barbecue, street food and 500 free cowboy hats. summerinnashville.com

The Apex Singers
Aberdeen Arts Centre, 33 King Street, Aberdeen, AB24 5AA, 01224 546 765. Thu Aug 13, 7.30pm, £15.00-£20.00. Universal Hall, The Park, Findhorn, Forres, IV36 3TZ, 01309 691170. Tue Aug 11, 7pm. The Apex Singers are an eight-part vocal ensemble celebrated for their bespoke a cappella arrangements of traditional folk songs from around the world.

Rising North Festival
Various venues, Lerwick, Lerwick, ZE1 0HB. Thu Aug 13-Sun Aug 16, Times vary, £tbc. Back for its third year, Rising North is a contemporary music festival spread over various venues in Lerwick, Shetland, including Mareel and Clickimin Leisure Complex, with more than 40 new and established acts. risingnorthfestival.com

THEATRE

The Pirates Of Penzance
Logie Steading, Dunphail, Forres, IV36 2QN, 01667 458900. Thu Aug 13, 7pm, £20.00. Frederick, apprenticed to the Pirates since he was a child, learns that he was born in a leap year on 29th February, and that he is contracted to the Pirate King until his 21st BIRTHDAY, not his 21st year. With only the inept Penzance constabulary to protect him? How will he resist being forced to endure a life of crime until he is 84? And will his sweetheart, Mabel, wait for him that long? With hilarious melodrama, sharp satire and glittering wit, The Pirates Of Penzance is as fresh as if it had been written today. logie.co.uk/steading

Celebration of the Centuries at Fort George.

Is there an event we should know about?

Then get in touch. Visit datathistle.com/pressandjournal to submit your event via the online form. We try to fit in as many events as possible.

Published in association with

DATA THISTLE

THIS IS SCOTLAND

WITH

THE Scots MAGAZINE

NEW PODCAST *OUT NOW*

*WITH ALLY HEATHER AND HEBRIDEAN BAKER, COINNEACH MacLEOD**